No. 35,784

# BBC Heads Out (With a Guide) To New Frontier: TV in America

By Tom Buerkle

LONDON — The British Broadcasting Corp. the self-styled high-class act of English-language television, is about to enter the land of Hol-

The BBC, Britain's publicly funded broad-caster, signed a long-awaited agreement with the American owners of the Discovery Channel on Thursday to create a group of television channels offering documentaries, nature and arts programs on global markets. The two companies also will establish a new cable channel, BBC America, that will offer British programs to U.S. viewers.

The \$665 million deal announced here culminated 18 months of negotiations and represented the biggest step yet in the BBC's determined attempt to expand globally through commercial ventures. But the plans have prompted some politicians and commercial rivals to argue that the BBC is overstepping its role as a public television company, and some TV critics worry that the BBC

at lower its standards in a drive for dollars. John Birt, the director-general who has driven the commercial expansion, said the venture was the BBC's answer to digital broadcasting technologies, which increase the oumber of channels and make programming from all over the world available globally. He also insisted that quality and independence would not suffer because the accord gives the BBC editorial control of all co-pro-

ductions and the programming of BBC America.

This partnership will help the BBC become the world's leading global broadcaster," Mr. Birt said. "It will give the U.K.'s creative talent and British program makers a showcase for their achievements right across the world."

John Hendricks, the founder and chairman of Discovery Communications Inc., said the two partners shared a commitment "to educating, entertaining and inspiring" their viewers. Rather than tailoring the BBC's offerings to American tastes, Mr. Hendricks said, Discovery planned to sell BBC America to U.S. cable operators on the

strength of its "fresh, new perspective."
Under the agreement, Discovery Communications Inc. will spend oearly \$300 million to develop and market the channels and invest \$175 million over five years into BBC programming to air on those channels. The venture begins with two existing offerings: Animal Planet, a nature program currently available to about 37 million homes in North and South America and an additional I million in Northern Europe, and People and Arts, a channel featuring cultural and docu-

See BBC, Page 10



#### **Europeans See Progress in Kosovo Talks With Belgrade**

The French and German foreign ministers reported progress in Belgrade on Thursday on resolving the Kosovo crisis. Above, relatives mourning the death of an ethnic Albanian, Qerim Muriqi, who was killed Wednesday during clashes between Serbian riot police and demonstrators in the Kosovo town of Pec, west of Pristina. Page 4.

# Darn! A Debate on NATO Today?

U.S. Senate Deliberations on Expansion Get Off to Chaotic Start

By Katharine Q. Seelye New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - Some senators said they would rather be debating education. Another complained that one of the most important

changes in America's commitment to defend Europe had been turned into "filler" between more important Yet another praised his home-state basketball

On the floor of the U.S. Senate on Wednesday, the official topic was whether to approve the treaty admitting Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Bot much of the discussion revealed a Senate, historically the scene of great oratorical struggles over foreign policy, barely engaged in an issue that would regraw the world's political boundaries.

This is a chamber that in the past has turned nearly funereal with respect for its international obligations -- whether war against Iraq, withdrawal from Vi-

Ghana Races Frantically

To Greet a Special Guest

Clinton and Corps of 800 Tax Nation's Facilities

etnam, or establishing a United Nations. But, perhaps as a reflection of the buoyancy of peace and prosperity, the Senate took up NATO expansion on Wednesday as an afterthought, debating it for a second day in a row only after chaotic scheduling had short-circuited a debate on education.

The procedural confusion only highlighted how backdoor the Senate's approach has become to one of the most profound changes in a generation to America's security commitments in Europe.

"It's being used as filler," said Senator Joseph Biden, Democrat of Delaware, who was leading the debate in favor of NATO expansion. The schedule itself became part of the debate, with the Democrats taking the opportunity to ridicule the

Republicans, who control Congress, for not debating topics that people really care about, like education.
"This vote on NATO," asserted Senator Paul Wellstone, Democrat of Minnesota, referring to the start of debate, "is not about what our position is on NATO. It

See NATO, Page 10

# New China Leader Vows to 'Blaze Trail'

# Prime Minister Zhu to Focus On Keeping Economy Strong

By Steven Mufson

BEUING — The new Chinese prime minister, Zhu Rongji, vowed Thursday to fend off the Asian financial virus and keep economic growth at 8 percent, while asserting his support for the han-dling of the 1989 pro-democracy crack-down in which several bundred studentled demonstrators were killed.

Although Mr. Zhu did not stray from the usual government positions during his maiden press conference as prime minister, he projected a relaxed, per-sonal style, bantering with foreign and domestic iournalists and fielding questions on everything from economic re-form and slothful civil servants to the 1989 massacre and his personal concern about the future, on a live national television broadcast.

His one-and-a-half-hour performance riveted Chinese audiences, who have endured countless ritual press cooferences that have normally featured pre-screened questions and pre-packaged answers.

"I'm afraid I will let the people wn," Mr. Zhu said. "Bot no matter what is awaiting me - whether it be land mines or an abyss — I will blaze my trail. I have no hesitations or mis-

givings."

Confidence and sophistication — oot anxiety or closed-mindedness — are what Mr. Zho radiated.

He praised a Time magazine photograph of himself and lamented an unflattering one in Newsweek, but conceded that the latter was more accurate. 'I can't really blame Newsweek because, in fact, I am rather ugly," Mr. Zhu joked. Later, spotting the attractive anchor for a Hong Kong-based satellite television channel partly owned by the media magnate Ropert Murdoch, Mr. Zhu told the assembled journalists, "I

really enjoy watching her show." If the new prime minister is going to blaze new trails, for now they seem to be mostly economic ones. Mr. Zhu, who is also ranked No. 3 in the Communist Party, was most caotious in answering political questions.

Asked how his own outlook had been shaped by experiences in labor camps after being labeled a "rightist" in a

1958 campaign against intellectuals who had criticized the Communist Party, Mr. Zhu said: "I learned deeply from it. It was not a bappy experience. I

do not want to talk about it. He said the Communist Party was "of one mind" about the "political disturbances" around Tiananmen Square in 1989. Mr. Zhu said that the Communist Party had "drawn conclusions" about the incident that "will not

be changed. He noted that at the time he was in Shanghai, where his televised plea persuaded students to leave Shanghai's main square.

Mr. Zhu's comments Thursday appeared to close off the hopes of many Chinese that Mr. Zhu, whose party membership was stripped in 1958 and

See ZHU, Page 19

# U.S. Feels Sting Of Asian Crisis As Trade Gap Sets a Record

WASHINGTON — The effects of the Asian economic crisis hit America's shores in January, swelling the U.S. trade deficit to \$12 billion with the imbalance in goods climbing to an all-time high.
The increase led to sharp words from

the Clintoo administration, which used the strongest language yet to urge Japan to-do more to stimulate its domestic economy as a way of promoting growth in the rest of Asia and reversing its trade gap with the United States.

'If the Japanese economy doesn't get moving, the likelihood of these other economies' improving is rather slim said Commerce Secretary William Da-

ley. "They are the key player."
The Commerce Department reported Thursday that the overall deficit in goods and services rose 10.5 percent from a revised December figure of \$10.9 billion. The imbalance with the newly industrialized Asian nations rose to the highest level since 1990.

The U.S. trade gap with Japan, which on Thursday reported a big jump in its trade surplus with the rest of the world, fell to \$4.38 billion in January from \$5.11 billion in December.

The January deficit was the highest since the department instituted the current measure of trade in 1992, but it was not the highest on record. The average monthly deficits topped \$12 billion in late 1987, when the data were calculated

on a quarterly basis. The January trade report offered dramatic proof that the Asian crisis would bave negative effects on the American economy. Most economists believe that overall growth could be slashed by as

much as one percentage point this year as the U.S. trade deficit skyrockets. The administration, worried about rising deficits, for months has been pres-suring Japan, the world's second-largest economy, to do more to stimulate domestic demand through tax cuts and increased public-works spending as a way of providing markets for Asian goods.

In unusually frank language, Mr. Da-ley mentioned the weak Japanese eur-rency as one of the problems faced by the

See TRADE, Page 19

# Leaders of House Weigh Dealing With Starr Report

By David S. Broder and Susan Schmidt Washington Past Service

WASHINGTON - The speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, and the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee have agreed to send a small group of House members at the appropriate time to examine evidence assembled by the independent counsel to determine if there is any basis for the committee to consider impeachment charges against President Bill Clinton, according to officials who have been briefed by both men.

No timetable has been set, but the officials said they contemplated that the first staff-level contacts with the independent counsel, Kenneth Starr on the status of his four-year investigation

would occur in the near future.

Congressional sources said Mr. Gingrich and Henry Hyde, Republican of Illinois and chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, recognized the po-tential explosiveness of the information Mr. Starr is believed to be developing. While both men have said repeatedly they do not expect a need for impeachment proceedings, the plan to send a small group of trusted members to review material in the independent counsel's files is seen as a precautionary measure to avoid surprises. Both are aware they would face intense - and probably conflicting — public pressure if and when Mr. Starr said it was time for Congress to consider whether Mr. Clinton should face impeachment.

Any preliminary perusal of the in-dependent counsel's files by members of Congress would require Mr. Starr's cooperation. The planned staff contacts are designed largely to explore when and how Mr. Starr might consider such

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Neither Mr. Gingrich, Republican of Georgia, nor Mr. Hyde has met with Mr. Starr, and their plans appeared to be proceeding on a separate track from those of the independent counsel. Lawyers in Mr. Starr's office are working on a draft report for Congress but have not determined its scope or timing. One source said the Gingrich-Hyde plan would be triggered only after Mr. Starr made a

formal referral in Congress, as specified in the independent counsel law.

The Gingrich-Hyde agreement came after several days of public sparring over leaks suggesting Mr. Gingrich might bypass the Indiciary Committee - the traditional venue for impeachment - and appoint a select committee to consider the Clinton matter. Officials said the speaker and the Illinois Republican emerged from a one-on-one meeting "in tandem" on how the first steps toward possible consideration of impeachment charges would proceed.

See CLINTON, Page 10

By Howard W. French

New York Times Service

country received a visitor of such note, it

was nearly four decades ago, and the guest was a young Queen Elizabeth II. Newly independent and lacking the kinds of accommodations typically re-

served for royalty, the government hur-

riedly built an extension to a white-

washed old fort that still serves today as

ACCRA, Ghana — The last time this

#### AGENDA

#### Clinton to Announce an Easing Of Some Restrictions on Cuba

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — President Bill Clinton is expected to announce an easing of U.S. policy toward Chba on Friday, including direct flights to the island, a senior administration official said Thursday.

He said there would be no lessening of the economic embargo, but that the steps would include permitting remittances from the United States to Cuba of \$1,200 a year per household and fewer restrictions on sales of medicines to humanitarian organizations.

#### 20-Year Term Is Asked for Papon

A state prosecutor asked a French court in Bordeaux on Thursday to sentence the accused Nazi collaborator Maurice Papon, 87, to 20 years in prison for his role in the arrest and deportation of Jews during World War II.

Many of the civil plaintiffs in the highly charged case had hoped the prosecution would demand a full life jail term, and bitterly criticized the decision to seek a lesser sentence. Page 4.

#### Strike at 2 Channel Ports and Tunnel

CALAIS, France (AP) — French port workers on the English Channel planned to strike Friday for 24 bours and to block the Channel Tunnel to protest the European Union's end of duty-free ferries and a plan to allow the hiring of foreigners at lower wages. Strikers were to begin blocking Calais and Boulogne at 5:45 A.M.



FORWARD-LOOKING-Helmut Kohl appearing in touch with the computer age Thursday at the public opening of the Cebit fair in Hannover. Page 4.

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Page 24.

Pages 8-9.

Pages 24-25.

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France's Fraying Social Net

Clinton's Popularity Remains High

BUSINESS/FINANCE Page 15.

Murdoch and Berbusconi Hold Talks

THE AMERICAS

Crossword...

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# Anatomy of a Price 'Riot'

#### Misunderstanding Sparked Indonesian Violence

By Thomas Fuller International Herald Tribune

PASURUAN, Indonesia — Uotil a few weeks ago, this small provincial town was best known for its sugar mills. But following reports of wide-scale looting and frenzied anti-Chinese violence last month. Pasuruan became a symbol of Indonesia's explosive potential for racial strife and civil unrest.

According to initial news accounts, as many as 400 people mobbed the town, attacked a Chinese-owned business, shouted anti-Chinese slogans and looted across a wide area as they went. A similar pattern has been reported in about 20 spots around the country since

the beginning of the year. Interviews with witnesses, religious leaders and merchants in Pasuruan, however, suggest that the reports of a looting spree were untrue, that it was not a Chinese-owned business that was aitacked and that the trigger for the riotwas not racial, but a simple misunderstanding over the price of kerosene. It has been almost commonplace, as

Indonesia's financial crisis lurches on-ward, to hear predictions of massive social unrest and anti-Chinese pogroms in the country. With an economy vir-tually paralyzed following the 70 percent devaluation of the rupiah, conventional wisdom suggested that the crisis would lead to violence and that the country's ethnic Chinese community would be the prime target, as it has been many times in the past.

Finture social tensions may be hard to predict, and few residents in and around Pasuruan deny the strong anti-Chinese undercurrents that have existed since Dutch colonial times. But if Pasuruan's riot of Feb. 2 is any guide, the reports of last month's unrest across the country were exaggerated. The target of protesters' ire here, a kerosene wholesaler, was not Chinese, but an indigenous Indonesian. And according to one account, numbers misunderstood on a television news report may have ignited

the angry response.

Across Indonesia, five people are re-

See KEROSENE, Page 10

But to the weeks since Mr. Clinton's visit was confirmed, no amount of rushing seems to have sufficed to meet his Though Queen Elizabeth arrived here

its state house. Ghana's government is again frantically preparing for a special guest, President Bill Clinton, who is to stop

here Monday on the first leg of a six-nation African tour. Mr. Clinton's visit will be the first by a U.S. president to sub-Saharan Africa in 20 years.

with an entourage of a couple of dozen royal handlers and aides, Mr. Clinton is bringing a super-sized delegation of about 800 people, including the press.

After much hand-wringing and planning sessions by advance teams and Chanaian officials that even resulted in

a trimming of the delegation size, it was decided that Mr. Climon could simply not stay overnight in Ghana There were just not enough hotel

In its owo way, the mismatch between a U.S. presidential delegation and the available hotel space in a West African capital like Accra, sums up in miniature the gap between rich and powerful

America and a largely poor Africa.

With the possible exception of South Africa, each stop on Mr. Clinton's it-inerary, from Ghana to Uganda, and Botswana to Senegal and Rwanda, will serve up reminders of just how rarely the

See GHANA, Page 10

# A Bitter Pill for France's Jobless: They Can't Live Well on Welfare

Entrenched expectations

for its workers are

challenges of global

competition.

that the state will look out

colliding with the pitiless

By Craig R. Whitney

ARIS — Like the more than 3 million other French workers who cannot find a job, Yves Hell is angry. He lost his job as a clerk in Marseille in December, and now, at age 35, he has had to give up his small apartment there and move in with his retired parents.

What he is angry about is not so much the difficult job market or being let go as the unexpected inability of the vaunted French welfare system to provide him with a decent standard of living.

"You can't live as well on nnemployment today as you could 10 years ago," he complained. When unemployed workers took to the streets in Marseille this winter to demand a year-end \$300 bonus payment to help them start the new year, he joined them,

Thousands of unemployed workers have marched on welfare offices around the country demanding large increases in benefits and, indeed, making a few gains. Last month, the government increased welfare payments. But protesters still want 10 times as much and plan to continue

demonstrating into the spring.

The panern of worker entitlement, protest and govemment capitulation is deep-rooted here, and has swollen the French welfare state into one of the most comprehensive and costly in Europe. But now, with French unemployment running at more than 12 percent since 1996, with a mandate to cut spending for the introduction of Europe's common currency and with growing international business com-

petition, this panem is near the hreaking point. This year, the French economy is expected to post a healthy 3 percent gain — its best growth in eight years — but it will not produce many new johs. The Joh shortage in the face of a gradual recovery is a problem bedeviling not just France but all of Western Europe, where entrenched expectations that the state will look out

for its workers are colliding with the pitiless challenges of global compen-

As economic growth picks up, the unemployed French feel as though they are being left behind, and that is putting the country at the epicenter of a collision between Europe's new order and the old. For generations, the French have generally assumed that their rich farmland and their proud industrial base would provide either the jobs or the "decent means of existence" promised in the preamble to the constitution.

Financed by some of the world's highest tax rates, the growing welfare system in Europe has flourished. It elevated 300 million people to some of the world's highest living standards, provided affordable medical care, public swimming pools and a superh educational system.

But much of that is financed by payroll taxes on employers that are among the steepest in the world. Now, many business leaders argue that the price of social protection is ton high in a world of intense competitors from Asia to the United States. Taxes and benefits are the main reasons employers say they are not creating jobs in Europe and especially in France.

Lionel Jospin, the Socialist prime minister who was elected last June on promises to make jobs his first priority, recently found a linle extra money for social measures thanks to higher-than-expected economic growth last year. He raised welfare payments 8 percent, instead of the 2 percent plan that had brought demonstrators to the streets. But he took pains to say, "I am for a society that works, not a society of assistance.

But where Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain has proposed cutting business taxes and giving people on welfare tax incentives to look for jobs, Mr. Jospin is placing his hopes for job creation on continued economic growth and a much-dehated plan to reduce the work week from 39 hours to 35 hours without cutting pay.

Shorter weeks will create hundreds of thousands of jobs.

he maintains. But employers say that without strong growth, the change could drive up costs and create even

In the United States, Corporate America cnt tens of thousands of jobs in the last decade or so, but unemployment eventually declined to record lows thanks mostly to a surge in new jobs in services. But like France, the U.S. government repeatedly had extended jobless benefits and created programs for the long-term unemployed during its period of transition until the U.S. economy began creating hundreds of millions of new jobs - a trend that is barely beginning now in France.

Many of the long-term unemployed feel "excluded," a word that in French means being outside normal society and carries the connotation of alienation and poverty.

Most had assumed they lived in a society that would

never leave them to fend for themselves. Believing that even France's labor unions did not represent their interests, many of the "excluded" have formed militant groups like the ones that led the sit-ins at welfare offices.

One example is A. C.! - an organization formed in 1994 whose initials in French signify "Act Together Against Unemployment, and are pronounced like the French word asser, or enough. It grew out of the traditional union movement and was one of the instigators of the demonstrations this year to occupy welfare offices around the country.

year to occupy welfare offices around the country.

Jacqueline Maman helped open a self-help storefront office for the unemployed in the 20th arrondissement of Paris, a formerly working-class neighborhood now heavily populated by North African immigrants.

Her National Movement of Temporary and Unemployed Workers, a group similar to A. C.!, concentrates on the problems of working women like herself, many of them single or divorced mothers with children.

Shappened the office after finding to her actorishment

She opened the office after finding, to her astonishment that the temporary johs she was lucky enough to land occasionally required her to contribute part of her pay to unemployment insurance. But even with those contributions, she could not get benefits after her job ended.

The unions and the employers administer the unemployment insurance and pension system, but people who are permanently out of work have no voice in how the money is spent," said Madame Maman, a 49-year-old former

secretary.

'The unemployed should sit on those boards,' she said. 'But the union leaders don't even want to know about the likes of us.

Jean-Jacques Leclerc, a 47-year-old single father in Marseille who is unemployed, volunteered to help in the A. C.! campaign to occupy welfare offices in December. "I felt I had to do something." he said. "I couldn't just stay at home doing nothing.

Mr. Leclerc, who uses a cane because of abuse he said he suffered as a child, said his last job, as an accountant, ended

five years ago when his employer went bankrupt.

He is still lonking for work, he said, and lives on a disability pension of about \$400 a month. He also gets a rent allowance that pays for the apartment in the center of the city for him and his three sons and family allowances that average about \$150 a month for each of the boys.

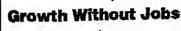
"That money belongs to them, not me," Mr. Leclerc said. "The boys like to have home-cooked Sunday lunch at home just like any other French family, and I but to make

home just like any other French family, and I try to make them a good Provencal meal.'

His family health insurance is free, as it is for people on welfare, and it would pay, Mr. Leclerc said, for psychiatric counseling for the boys to help them get through the problems they experienced after their mother abandoned the family four years ago, for reasons he said were not connected with his losing his joh.

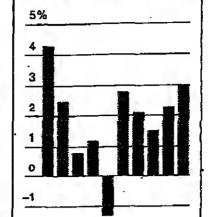
"Look at the fortunes being made on the stock market," he said. "I can't even afford a basketball for my oldest." Mr. Hell, the 35-year-old clerical worker who moved into his parents' apartment in Marseille, nodded in understanding. He is attending classes at the tuition-free Saint-Charles University in Bordeaux to get his French secondary-school diploma, the baccalaureat.
"I want to show that it is possible to escape this

unemployment trap," he said.



The French economy is growing, but the unemployment rate remains high.

Real gross domestic product Percent change from previous year



Unemployment rate

1997 and 1998 are estimates.

Source: Organization for Economic

Cooperation and Development

#### **Getting By**

Typical benefits\* for a single parent of three, unemployed for several years ...

in France Health insurance is free.

WELFARE RENT ALLOWANCE

**FAMILY ALLOWANCE** TOTAL

In the United States May qualify for Medicaid, but it is not guaranteed.

WELFARE FOOD STAMPS

\*Average package of benefits, which would vary by individual and

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (U.S. data)

# In Brazil's Forest Fires, Villey's Indians See Apocalypse Doesn't S

By Michael Astor. The Associated Press

ON THE YANOMAMI RESERVA-TION, Brazil — The midday sun burns red through the smoke rising from dozens of forest fires. For the Yanomami Indians, it is a sign of the apocalypse - and environmentalists fear they may be right.

A 3-month-old fire is raging out of control just across the Mucajai River. where firefighters are struggling to protect the Yanomamis from the worst conflagration in the history of this remote

But it may be too late. Dozens of smaller fires already are burning unchecked inside the 10 million hectare (25 million acre) reservation that is home to the world's largest Stone Age tribe.

Baby jaguars, separated from their mothers, lope along the road, past ki-lometer after kilometer of scorched forest. The fires are scaring away the game that sustains the reservation's

'The turtles and the armadillos are disappearing," said Antonio Yan-omami, who uses the tribe's name as a sumame. "We have food for now, but

I'm worried about later on.' So far, no Indians have died in the fire. But at least three malocas, or grasscovered huts, have hurned down, said Mannel Canuto da Silva, who runs the Federal Indian Bureau post at Jaranei. 190 kilometers (120 miles) southwest of the Roraima State capital, Boa Vista.

The sun glows red through the shostly shroud of smoke, making the

Yanomami uneasy.

"This is the sign of the apocalypse for them," said Guilherme Danoli, an Italian priest who has lived among the Yanomami since 1989. "They are beating on the walls of their houses to exorcise the evil spirits.

Others perform the Xabori rimal, drawing on the ground and chanting to

bring rain.
"The rains will come tomorrow," Antonio asserted. Modern forecasters are less confident - they do not expect rain before mid-April.

Barely a 12th of a centimeter has fallen this year in Roraima, a wedge of land between Venezuela and Guyana. The unusual dry spell is the work of El Niño, a warming of waters in the Pacific that changes weather patterns worldwide.

Vegetation has dried to tinder, and the annual brush-burning by farmers, ranchers and Indians roared over savanna and pastures that cover much of the state. So far, only about one-fifth of the burned area is forest, hut residents say the outlook is ominous.

This is the first time I've seen the fire enter the forest," Father Danoli said. "If the rain doesn't come next

The Yanomami Park Creation Commission, a local group, said that several hundred Indians were surrounded by flames in northern Amazonas State, where part of the Yanomami reservation is located, and that flames threatened to engulf the villages in five days.

But federal officials said the fires were at least 100 kilometers from the Yanomamis and that it would take hurricane-force winds to push the flames that quickly.

The governor of Roraima, New Campos, said the fire had burned man than 600,000 hectares, or about 3 percent of the state. One man was killed

In Boa Vista, a city of 150,000

Political wrangling has delayed fed.

eral aid, two months after Mr. Campos of done in Clinical declared a state of emergency.

declared a state of emergency. Some say the state inflated reports of destruction

Today, the state has just 270 fire to not not fire. The said of whiters and few that has just 270 fire to not not fire.

The state's civil defense chief, Kleber is wall him as president.

Cerquinho, said firefighters had been the Assertes Susan Hanson deployed in Assertes Susan Hanson deployed in Apian, one of the worst-his machinatic St. Patrick's Days regions that borders the Yanomami reagent about Mrs. Willey's servation. But he had to rely on jour paper he had in the said situation alists for progress reports—he had no the writes for a

# Drug-War Study Shifts the Blane Amony printancers is not a been for the Blane Mental of the delect. "Do I think the Wiley is interview shook are the Wiley is interview shook are the Blane." The Wiley is interview shook are the Wiley shook are the Wiley

By Tim Golden
New York Times Service

which U.S. officials have bitterly crit and care? Is Mr. Clinton icized Mexico's cooperation in the affordathe colling results may battle against drug trafficking; govern- nomplicated set of public comment inspectors have suggested that the patout the president's behavior.

United States may bear a greater share there on public opinion say it is

Onted States may bear a greater share the of purch opinion say a to of the hlame.

According to an assessment by the sake impact of Mrs. Willey and General Accounting Office, the invest- as But they also say the accidence arm of Congress, planes, heli- pinion witness that even the processes and ships sent to Mexico by the sample do not represent something united States have largely been inop- mable do not represent something the capture of the processes of the process of the processes of the process of the process

The inspectors were vague about pre- and instanti; change and cisely who was to blame. But they sug- this were a stock, you was gested that poor planning and coordinate has already discourses.

least provide equipment that is fully op- that a provided was a lectational at the time that it is provided. If credibility behind said Senator Dianne Feinstein, Democrat of California.

The accounting office's disclosures were made in congressional testimony Black a political scientist at that was intended to examine the Clinton say in Texts, said it may an administration's formal ruling last that one appearance by Mrs. month that Mexico was fully cooperating tangethe current political climates were on a content political climates. to fight the drug trade. A Senate vote on Minutes program may a resolution to overturn the administrative size of the audience. ration's "certification" of Mexico is a recald need constant are

ration's "certification" of Mexico is twould need constant respected next week.

Echoing the Clinton administration, intensibility news broadcasts, and officials of the accounting office noted a artis leads to anything else, and a forcement units and programs to fight at the public opinion toward alternative the most part less than impressed with merricular reflected the timest the effects those changes have had. seben firmly fixed for years.

WASHINGTON - Scott Sar smoke forced the local airport to clies and plants. Florida, hardly a for three days.

On Wednesday, federal environment of the discussion in President all officials arrived in the city, 3.60 plants are small plants. In the city of the discussion in the city and the same of the city and the same of the city and the same of the city of the city and the same of the city of the city and the same of the city of the to meet with Mr. Campos and fly over the first is covaring har as the affected area.

thought it would take 1,000 firefighters to combat the hlaze. After a closer look, he raised his estimate to 10,000.

fighters and few tractors or other equipment.

The cross a sound of the country of the cross of

way to communicate with his men in the all. Hanson, who writes for a

nation, particularly by the Pentagon, and Whit Ayter, was the source of the problem.

"You would think that we would at helsinely little new to the problem."

Gilberto Mendes, a firefighting specialist from Rio de Janeiro, at first thought it would take 1 000 forest

By Dan Balz

WASHINGTON - After years in postument the president Dope

I'm not willing to con Willey interview had little

ficer ab

cnter MI College

by individ

plans to

#### WEATHER

#### Moise Elghanayan, who died at the age of 52. was horn in Iran to a wealthy Jewish family His father David and his uncle Hahit Elghanayan were leaders of the Jewist community in Iran. Habib was the Chairman of the Jewish Central Committee in Tehran for almost a quarter of a century. He became one of the first victims of the Islamic Revolutior

when on the direct orders of Ayattollal

Khomeini, Habib Elghanayan was executed. Moise had his elementary schooling in Tehran and was sent to London's Carmel College for his high school studies. He went to Boston (Babson College) for his university studies. He then set up his property and financial business in the US and later moved to

With the franian Revolution looming on the horizon, Moise moved out of Iran in August 1978 and settled in London, continuing with this property and financial services business.

· He murried Rhonda Borshanpour in 1973 and his only David was

Although he was born and lived in wealth, Moise was extremely 'humble and managed to befriend people from all walks of live. His vibrant and charming character attracted almost everyone who came into contact with him and he made excellent use of his contacts for charitable fund raising Moise was an active member of the World Sephardi Federation

'London and the transan Jewish Centre. He also raised funds for publication of Iudo-Iranian Studies · Moise's untimely death has deprived his community of his continuing contribution.

IN MEMORIAM

The World Sephardi Federation, London, mourns the loss of Moise Elghanavan, one of us most active members, who died in London last week at the age of 52 The World Sephardi Federation, London, offers its deepes

sympathics to Mrs Rhonda Elghanayan, his widow and David Elghanayan, his son, as well as the Iranian Jewiish community for the loss of such a valuable and active member.

The charitable work of Moise should be a model for all those who believe in charitable and humanitarian activities. On behalf of the World Sephardi Federation, England President - Mr Sami Shamoon.

DEATH NOTICE **OBITUARY** 

LONDON (AP) — P & O Stena Line is canceling services to Calais on Friday because of a 24-hour strike at the French port

Taiwan Grounds Domestic Carrier TAIPEI (AP) --- Prime Minister Vincent Siew grounded a

rest following the crash of a passenger plane, the second since Mr. Siew told the cahinct that government supervision of flight safety appeared to have been lax. He grounded all Formosa Airlines flights pending safety checks, and called on authorities to ensure that flight crews from Taiwan's four

ignore rules and procedures. A Formosa Airlines Saah 340 crashed into the sea shortly

BEIJING (Bloomberg) — Universal Studios said it will become the first Hollywood studio to open an American-style

A passenger terminal at Cleveland's largest airport was evacuated Wednesday after a man rushed through a security checkpoint and disappeared. About 1,500 people were escorted from a concourse at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport while police with dogs trained to sniff out bombs searched for him. The alert ended two hours later.

#### TRAVEL UPDATE

#### Strike Disrupts Channel Ferries

and will divert ferries to Zeebrugge. Belgium, the company said Thursday. Services will resume at 3 A.M. on Saturday. P & O said it would operate six big ferries and three freight ships on the four-hour Zeebrugge run on Friday.

domestic carrier Thursday and ordered safety checks on the

international airlines and six small domestic carriers did not

after takeoff late Wednesday, killing all 13 people aboard.

Last month, a China Airlines Airbus crashed on return from Bali, Indonesia, killing 202 people.

#### Universal to Open Center in Beijing

family entertainment and shopping center in China.

Scheduled to open this summer, Universal Studios Experience will be part of Henderson Center, a retail, office and apartment complex in Beijing developed by Henderson (China) Investment Co. The center will include high-technology, interactive and educational amusements for children and adults.

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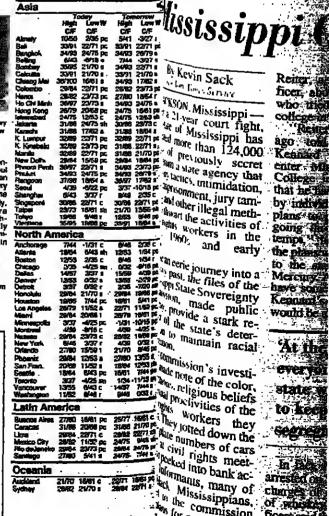
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# Willey's TV Appearance Doesn't Sway the Public

#### Little Change in President's Strong Support

By Dan Balz Nushington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Scott Saxe, a 38year-old pharmacy technician from Fort Lauderdale, Florida, hardly besitated when asked what he thought of Kathleen Willey's allegation that President Bill Clinton made an unwanted sexual advance toward her oear the Oval Office.

"Maybe there is sexual harassment, has done for the country," he said, referring to Mr. Clinton.

In New York City, Edwin Diaz, 27, working the country at the New Way.

working the counter at the New Way Market, said he had seen and read reports of Mrs. Willey's appearance oo the CBS news program "60 Minutes" on Sunday night.

"He is doing his joh and if he did it, it's not our problem." he said of the president. "It is his life. He could have done it, but he has a lot of enemies that don't want him as president."

In Los Angeles, Susan Hanson, 35, was celebrating St. Patrick's Day when she was asked about Mrs. Willey's ac-

"It's a he-sald-she-said situation," said Ms. Hanson, who writes for a university alumni association. "I have no doubt that Clinton is a philanderer, but how many philanderers have been in the White House but were still great?" A moment later she added, "Do I think it's

important to the country? No."

Mrs. Willey's interview shook up the White House and produced another spike of media analysis about the implications for Mr. Clinton's presidency. But the public reaction, measured by overnight polls, showed little change in attitudes toward the president. Do people simply not care? Is Mr. Clinton hulletproof? Or do the polling results mask a more complicated set of public conclusions about the president's behavior?

Experts on public opinion say it may r be too soon to draw any conclusions about the impact of Mrs. Willey's allegations. But they also say the accusations from a witness that even the pres-· ident's supporters acknowledge appeared to be credible do not represent something -so dramatically different from charges leveled at Mr. Clinton over the years that they could instantly change attitudes.

"If this were a stock, you would say the market has already discounted this information," said Whit Ayres, a Republican pollster. "The interview provided relatively little new informa-tion. What it provided was a large measure of credibility behind existing charges. I'm not willing to cooclude yet that the Willey interview had little or no

Earl Black, a political scientist at Rice University in Texas, said it may take more than one appearance by Mrs. Willey to change the current political climate. The "60 Minutes" program "may be limited by the size of the audience," he "said. "It would need constant reinforcement on the nightly news broadcasts and in the print media. And a lot depends on whether this leads to anything else."

" Peter Hart, a Democratic pollster, said "the fact that public opinion toward Mr. Clinton had remained stable since the \*Willey interview reflected the limitations of instant polls and the reality that attitudes about the president's personal \*life have been firmly fixed for years.

"You're assuming that the American public at some stage said that this is a person of high moral values," he said. 'In truth, they've never believed that."

In January, after the first allegations surfaced that Mr. Clinton had had a sexual affair with a White House intern, Monica Lewinsky, and urged her to lie about it under oath, which he has denied, the president's approval ratings rose to their highest levels of his presidency and have remained there. At the same time, a majority of Americans say they do not believe the president is telling the full truth and barely a quarter say they believe he is a man of high personal moral and ethical standards, down from 4 in 10 last summer.

Some pollsters had predicted before Mrs. Willey's televised appearance that her testimony would do little, at least initially, to affect opiniona. They said her accusations, while dramatic, were not something new with regard to Mr. Clinton. They also said public opinion had hardened and polarized over the past two months. New charges and countercharges, they said, would be evaluated in the context of a political war between the White House and the

independent counsel, Kenneth Starr. Still, the response from the White House suggested that the president's advisers feared the worst from Mrs. Willey's interview, which is why they immediately released letters from Mrs. Willey suggesting that she remained friendly toward Mr. Clinton.

Democratic strategists also expected a more immediate negative reaction from the public. "I really thought that this time it would make a difference, one Democratic analyst said.

But the public reaction, based on interviews by Post correspondents in several cities around the country, was far more muted. "The bottom line with me is that the sex stuff doesn't matter," said Melissa Haffley, 34, a Los Angeles accounts executive. "This whole thing is a waste of time,"

These interviews underscored that people appear more alarmed that Mr. Clinton may be lying than that he had sexual affairs or encounters, "I don't care about his private life" said Gus Loureiro, 66. a New Jersey club manager, adding, 'But to lie is a disgrace."

**Away From Politics** 

· A man convicted of killing his

father and three members of his step-

family after he became enraged by a

remark about his late mother was ex-

ecuted by injection in Virginia.

Douglas Buchanan Jr., 29, committed

the murders in September 1987.(AP)

Massachusetts charged a teenage boy

with shutting down an airport com-

munications system. The boy, whose

name was not made public, faces two years' probation, a fine and commu-

nity service. He is the first juvenile

charged in federal court with com-

puter hacking, officials said. (AP)

• Part of the outer thermal layer of

the space shuttle Columbia was dam-

aged during routine preparations at



President Bill Clinton being taken on a tour of the Carpenter's Joint Apprentice Workshop in Las Vegas.

# A Friend Attacks Accuser's Credibility

#### She Says Willey Had Asked Her to Lie About Clinton Encounter

By John M. Broder New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Julie Hiatt Steele, a friend of Kathleen Willey's, has released a swom affidavit accusing the former White House aide of asking her to lie to corroborate Mrs. Willey's account of being sexually groped by President Bill Clinton in the Oval Office.

The affidavit released Wednesday night repeats Ms. Steele'a earlier contention that in conversations shortly after Mrs. Willey's meeting at the White House in 1993, Mrs. Willey "never said anything to suggest that President Clinton made sexual advances towards her or otherwise acted inappropriately in

Mrs. Willey's attorney, Daniel Geck-er, did not return telephone calls seeking

launching next month. Technicians

had just hoisted Columbia into a ver-

tical position and attached its two

booster rockets and an external fuel

tank. A powerful lifting sling banged into the lower left section of

the federal government said that for

the first time it had fined dealerships

for selling or leasing inadequately

equipped passenger vans as school

buses. Ten dealers were fined a total

· Mayors of four California cities

Cruz and West Hollywood - have

urged President Bill Clinton to aban-

don federal efforts to close clubs that

San Francisco, Oakland, Santa

The timing of the release of Ms. Steele's affidavit coincides with the White House's concerted effort this week to control the damage from Mrs. Willey's graphic account Sunday on the CBS news program "60 Minutes" of the alleged sexual encounter with the

The White House this week released a series of letters from Mrs, Willey to the president that portrayed a warm relationship and gave no hint that any-thing untoward had occurred between

Ms. Steele's conflicting account had been generally disclosed previously. But Mrs. Willey's characterization of her friend on the "60 Minutes" program appears to have been the catalyst for Ms. Steele's decision to release the affidavit, which had been given Feb. 13 in the Paula Jones sexual misconduct case against Mr. Clinton.

In the television interview, Mrs. Willey was asked about Ms. Steele's ver-sion of events, and said, "The White House wanted to try to discredit me and they found a pawn in her."

A short statement attached to the affidavit Wednesday calls Ms. Steele 'nobody's pawn."

, Her lawyer, Nancy Luque, said Wednesday night that Ms. Steele "felt no when the president's lawyers initially sought her affidavit as part of their attempt to question Mrs. Willey's credibility in the Jones case.

Likewise, Ms. Luque said, the White House did not influence Ms. Steele's decision to release her affidavit. "It's my view that Julie's story was not adequately represented on '60 Minntes.' she said. "That's why I wanted to release the affidavit. That decision was solely mine and Julie's. We took no direction from the White House and won't in the future."

Ms. Steele and Mrs. Willey have known each other for 20 years, but they

are now pitted against each other. Ms. Steele's affidavit could also be used to undercut the assertions by the Jones legal team that Mrs. Willey's encounter with the president confirms a pantern of sexually harassing female subordi-

Mrs. Willey's account of her meeting with Mr. Clinton first surfaced publicly in Newsweek magazine last August, a few months after Mrs. Willey had approached Ms. Steele for corroboration, according to Ms. Steele's affidavit, It said Mrs. Willey had called her to tell her that she had just told Michael Isikoff, a reporter for Newsweek, that the president "had 'groped' her and pulled at her clothing,"

Mrs. Willey wanted Mr. Isikoff to hear that Ms. Steele had learned of these events four years earlier, and asked Ms. Steele to say that Mrs. Willey went to her home shortly after the meeting with Mr. Clinton on Nov. 29, 1993, the affidavit states.

It said Mrs. Willey asked Ms. Steele o ''describe her demeanor as 'upset,' 'humiliated,' 'disappointed,' and 'har-

"I told Ms. Willey that I could not make such statements because she had not come to my house that day and had never told me of any sexual advances hy President Clinton," Ms. Steele said in her affidavit. "She repeatedly assured me that any discussion with Isikoff would be 'off the record' and that it would be all right if I lied to him. She told me she needed me to do this for her and that she would explain

Mr. Isikoff arrived later that day and Ms. Steele told the story as Mrs. Willey had requested.

Three months later, in July, Ms. Steele told Mr. Isikoff that "Ms. Willey had asked me to lie to support her version of the event and that I had, in fact,

#### POLITICAL NOTE

#### Clinton Criticizes Republican Budget

LAS VEGAS — President Bill Clinton has firmly rejected the current Republican budget proposal. declaring that it "shortchanges our nation's future" by eliminating nearly all of his new domestic initiatives on education, job training and child care.

Employing sharply partisan language in a speech to a cheering crowd of union members of the AFL-CIO, Mr. Clinton on Wednesday set out on a collision course with the Republican-controlled Congress over how the nation should spend its first projected surplus in 30 years.

"If the Republican budget says no to new teachers and smaller classes, no to modernizing our schools, no to investing in higher education for our children, the American people should say no to that budget," Mr. Clinton said. He added: "I need your help. This ought not be a partisan polit-

ical issue." . Hours later, the Senate Budget Committee approved the Republican tax and spending plan on a party-line 12-to-10 vote. If the plan is approved on the Senate floor, it will serve as the blueprint for the specific hills authorizing spending programs and tax cuts. (NYT) programs and tax cuts.

#### Tobacco Industry: Lobbyists' Windfall

WASHINGTON -- The tobacco industry spent more than \$19 million on outside lobbyists last year — three times as much as in 1996 — most of it to press for passage of the proposed

national tobacco settlement. Three Washington law and lobbying firms were paid the most, taking in \$12.6 million last year from the nation's five leading tobacco companies, after they were hired to garner support for the settlement in Congress and from the Clinton administration.

One firm, Verner, Lipfert, Bernhard, McPherson and Hand, took in \$10.3 million from five tobacco companies, according to the most recent lobby fee disclosures filed in Congress.

Critics of the industry, and even seasoned Washington lobbyists, were struck by the multimillion-dollar push. The tobacco settlement is Valhalla for the lobbyists, more than a full-employment program," said Senator Ron Wyden, Democrat of Oregon, a vocal foe of

#### Quote/Unquote

John McGovern, press secretary for the Illinois state Republican Party, on the Senate race between the Republican nominee, Peter Fitzgerald, and the Democratic incumbent, Carol Moseley-Braun: "Peter is a tax fighter. He believes in lean-andclean government. This election is going to be a referendum on her record and the host of scandals that make hers the most vulnerable seat in the U.S. Senate."

# Mississippi Opens the Files on How It Fought Integration

Columbia.

of \$14,400.

Sending a warning to young com In a crackdown on the unsafe

puter hackers, federal prosecutors in transportation of school-age children,

Cape Canaveral, Florida, for a dispense medical marijuana. (AP)

By Kevin Sack New York Times Service

JACKSON, Mississippi — After a 21-year court fight, the state of Mississippi has unsealed more than 124,000 pages of previously secret files from a state agency that used spy tactics, intimidation, false imprisonment, jury tampering and other illegal meth-4-1950s; 1960s and early

Like an eerie journey into a shadowy past, the files of the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission, made public Tuesday, provide a stark re-minder of the state's determination to maintain racial segregation. The commission's investi-

gators made note of the color, associations, religious beliefs and sexual proclivities of the civil rights workers they tracked. They jotted down the license plate numbers of cars parked at civil rights meetcounts. Informants, many of charges of illegal possession them black Mississippians, reported to the commission about plans for marches and boycotts.

In some cases, the potential for using violence against civil rights workers was dis-Although memorandums. none of the documents reviewed show a direct state of activists in Mississippi during those years, they clearly reflect the mindset of

the day. In one 1959 memorandum, for example, a commission investigator, Zack VanLandingham, writes to Governor J. P. Coleman to relate a conversation he had with John

who tried to desegregate a college in Hattiesburg.
"Reiter had several weeks

ago told me that when Kennard was attempting to enter Mississippi Southern College in December 1958 that he had been approached hy individuals with possible plans to prevent Kennard's ods to thwart the activities of going through with his at-civil rights workers in the tempt," he wrote. "One of the plans was to put dynamite to the starter of Kennard's Mercury. Another plan was to have some liquor planted in Kennard's car and then he would be arrested.

> 'At the time, everyone in the state was gung-ho to keep things segregated.'

In fact, Mr. Kennard was ings and peeked into bank ac- arrested on Sept. 15, 1959, on plaintiffs filed suit to keep the ficers said they had found five half-pints of whiskey and other liquor under the front sear of his car.

ists who were the subjects of subjects of the commission's in commission Sovereignty Commission in investigations to exert their vestigations said that they rights to keep their own files might use their newly released records to file lawsuits pages out of a total of 132,000 hand in the numerous deaths against the state. Prosecutors said that it was also possible because 42 people claimed that information found in the those privacy rights, accordfiles could be used to press ing to Katie Blount, a spokesleged perpetrators, if they are

'Certainly, if there's evi- tained and indexed the files. dence that comes to light re-garding any crime that oc-sion was established in 1956

it's prosecutable, just like we did in the Beckwith case," said Bobby DeLaughter, a Hinds County assistant district

attorney in Jackson. In 1994, Mr. DeLaughter won a conviction against Byron De La Beckwith for the murder in 1963 of Medgar Evers, a NAACP leader, after learning that the Sovereignty Commission had aided Mr. Beckwith's defense in previous trials. He escaped conviction in two trials in the 1960s after juries deadlocked. The commission helped screen potential jurors to weed out Jews and civil rights

The unsealing of the Sovereignty Commission files concluded a two-decade legal battle that began in 1977, the year the state legislature voted the commission out of existence and sealed its records for 50 years. The American Civil Liberties Union several individual records open, and in 1989 of whiskey after police of Judge William Barbour of U.S. District Court ordered

that they be released. It took nine more years to satisfy appeals and to estab-Several civil rights activ- lish a process for allowing private. Approximately 7,700 pages of files remain secret criminal charges against al- man for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, which has main-

curred in our jurisdiction, then with a \$250,000 budget "to

Reiter, a campus police ofwe'll certainly investigate that, protect the sovereignty of the
One of the few living memhappened." For those who
ficer, about Clyde Kennard, take a look at it to see whether state of Mississippi, and her bers of the Sovereignty Comhave waited for decades to see sister states, from encroachment thereoo by the federal government

"It will probably bring forth some memories of a bad time in the state, which we all acknowledge was a bad time now," said William Winter, a former governor of Mississippi and a member of the President's Advisory Board on Race. "I hope it'll be the basis for understanding that we can't ever lapse back into the kind of intolerance we once had in this state."

mission, Betty Long, 69, said that she, 100, was pleased that collected about them, their the files had been opened.

instead of innuendo and rumors." she said, adding that elation and relief. she did not believe that the commission had been in-

"At the time, everyone in the state was gung-ho to keep things segregated and that was tied in with the idea."

"In dere, " said Ellie Dahmer, clutching a packet containing the file oo her husband, Vernon Dahmer.

Mr. Dahmer Communists' taking over, It's burg something I wish had oever 1966. something I wish had oever

One of the few living mem- happened." For those who what information the state files had been opened. family members and their 'I want facts to be known friends, the day provided a long-awaited moment of rev-

"Twenty-one years is a long time to wait to see what

was firebombed in

#### the moment seize

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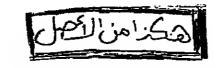
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VUKOVAR, Croatia - About \$450 million in international aid and two years of UN administration have failed in their goal: to turn this forlom corner of the Balkans into the first example of how a minority ethnic population could be successfully integrated into one of the nationalist states in the former Yugoslavia.

Of the 120,000 ethnic Serbs who lived in the eastern Slavonian enclave two years ago, nearly half have fled, and the number of departures is rising daily, according to relief agencies. There have been dozens of assaults, beatings and evictions, and three ethnic Serbs have been killed by local Croatians, who assumed coutrol of the enclave in January from the United Nations.

"This is administrative ethnic cleansing," said a senior official at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which is monitoring the transition. "The Serbs are being driven out piecemeal in a kind of silent exodus.

The mood is black among the ethnic Serbs here, who rebelled against Croatia at the start of the war and maintained a rebel enclave until

outside Osijek, are deserted, with front doors swinging in the bitter wind to expose looted and and boxes, are plotting their escape to Serbia,

Bosnia or as refugees in Europe.
"It is bopeless," said Drago Postic, 37, holding airline tickets to Norway for himself and his wife. "My wife and I leave tomorrow. There is no future here, no work. We are constantly harassed and threatened.

Most ethnic Serbs have lost their jobs under the new Croatian administration, and of 1,500 houses given state reconstruction funds, only six belong to ethnic Serbs. Local Serbs have been sent unexplained bills for huge sums supposedly owed to government-owned banks from overdrafts incurred before the war.

They have also been barassed by armed gangs, some of whom have held public rallies where they gave the fascist salute and sang songs from the Ustashe Nazi puppet state that governed Croatia in World War II. The Ustashe government sent hundreds of thousands of Serbs to their deaths in extermination camps.

Neven Jurica, denied there was a campaign to rid the region of ethnic Serbs.

In one typical case an overdraft of about \$40 in

He said those who were leaving were doing so empty homes. Families, surrounded by cartons for "economic reasoos" and insisted that 40,000 of the people who fled did so while the area was under UN administration.

In 1991 rebel Serbs, backed by Belgrade, seized three enclaves in Croatia, including eastern Slavonia. The Serb-dominated Yugoslav Army besieged Vukovar for three months, using heavy artillery and tanks to pound the city to subble before its capture. It remains in ruins, its jagged and gutted huildings standing like broken teeth along the swirling brown waters of the Dannbe.

The Serbs expelled nearly all of the Croats from the three enclaves, murdered hundreds of Croatian civilians and looted and burned Croatian homes. Two of the rebel enclaves were taken back in lightning attacks by the Croatian Army in 1995, with about 60,000 of the ethnic Serbs from these areas fleeing to eastern Slavonia.

The Croatian authorities have used the hundreds of bills mailed out to Serbian families to to Croats, have been forced ont, yet most cannot

Yugoslavian dinars by Dragica Medic was calculated by the Slavonska Banka in Osijek to equal \$1,400 in Croatian kuna.

and was told his money had "been eaten up by inflation.

"What are the use of negotiations?" said Milos Vojnovic, the Serbian president of the joint council of municipalities. "There is widespread pressure and panic, orchestrated by the Croats, that is fueling these departures."

The most obstructive tactic is the refusal to permit ethnic Serbs to return to houses from which they were driven in other parts of Croatia, ask for political asylum. At least 25,000 ethnic despite promises to the United Nations by the Croats in do so.

The 60,000 displaced people who had been living in this enclave, mostly in houses belonging begin court proceedings to seize their houses. return to houses they own in other parts of diplomats. They have also formed a real-estate agency to Croatia. There are no more than 16,000 displaced no Serbs."

zation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Croatian building inspectors have been con-

demning houses belonging to ethnic Serbs in other areas of the country, to make sure the Serbs, who once made up 12 percent of Croatia's 5 million people, do not go back. The empty houses Those with savings, though, have rarely been able to recover their money. Simo Blagujevic, an ethnic Serb, went to collect his \$5,320 in dinars molition sent to the displaced and often destinate.

The Croatian authorities have also cleaned me the debris from ethnic Serbian houses that have also been damaged in other parts of the country sold the property to cover the cost of the cleanen UN officials said

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TOTAL POPULATION

In the last two months about 1,300 ethnic Serbs, who can travel to Norway without a visa ou a Croatian passport, have appeared in Oslo to Serbs from the region are now in the rump Yugoslavia, according to the UN High Com-missioner for Refugees, and thousands more have gone to the Serb-held part of Bosnia.

"Zagreb is getting what if wants," a European diplomat said, "a nationalist state where there are

### Serb Business Feels Pain

Sanctions Threat Over Kosovo Stalls Investment Just When Economy Was Starting to Come Back

By Lee Hockstader

BELGRADE — In a hleak landscape of rusting factories and industrial ruin. Tigar Rubber Products Co. was that rare success story in Yugoslavia: a company whose sales — and profits — were booming on the strength of exports to Western Europe.

Tigar's tires and shoes were catching on rapidly - so rapidly, in fact, that sales were expected to rise by about 50 percent this year over last year's figures. Company executives were rubbing their

But as a result of the police crackdown on ethnic Albanians in the southern Serhian province of Kosovo, Tigar's dreams of high export profits are dying fast. European Union tariffs exemptions, which the company and EU officials expected to be renewed possibly as early as next month, are now a nonstarter.

That means sharply higher tariffs on Tigar's products, and sharply lower profits for Tigar.

A company spokeswoman said the company expected the higher tariffs

# **Swiss Envoy** Warns Against **Bank Boycott**

governments over Holocaust claims could prompt Switzerland to retaliate with sanctions, Swiss officials said Thursday.

The Swiss government's special envoy for Holocaust issues, Thomas Borer, said he was cautiously optimistic that local finance officers in the United States would decide against sanctions against Swiss banks. Mr. Borer said the possibility of re-

taliation was one of the reasons he believed that a committee of five U.S. financial controllers was less likely to call for a boycott of Swiss banks at a meeting in New York next Thursday.

'You have to understand that the controllers are aware that there could be countermeasures in Switzerland," he

Some U.S. state and city officials, backed hy Jewish organizations, are pressing Swiss banks to settle claims by Holocaust victims and have called for the reimposition of sanctions against the banks. In December, U.S. public bodies temporarily lifted a ban on doing husiness with them. Mr. Borer said that sanctions against

Swiss banks would break international trade agreements and could deter con-American companies from investing in localities that imposed them.
"This would definitely be a wrong

decision by those local authorities," he said, adding that companies in Switzerland, the seventh-higgest overseas investor in the United States, might think twice about putting money into those

The head of a party in the Swiss governing coalition said Switzerland should consider punishing U.S. companies if sanctions were imposed.

"There are various possibilities for such measures," Franz Steinegger, president of the Radical Democratic Party, told the Zurich newspaper Blick.

The steering group of officials who will meet oext week represents about 200 U.S. public finance officers who gathered in New York in December to decide bow to address Jewish claims that Swiss banks were withholding assets of Holocaust victims. The finance officers put off action until March 3t in see how Swiss efforts in settling Jewish claims progressed.

"Since then we have made more progress," Mr. Borer said, "We are fulfilling the promises we made."

"Therefore there is no rational reason for sanctions," he said.

Edgar Bronfman, the president of the World Jewish Congress, said last week that Swiss banks would face "total including class-action suits in U.S. courts, if they did not settle the claims soon. He said that the banks sbould pay \$3 billion to settle the claims. A group of Holocaust survivors are seeking \$20 hillioo in a U.S. court case.

Mr. Borer said that Mr. Bronfman's remarks were "shocking" and lacked (Reuters, Bloomherg)

would lop more than \$3 million off the company's profits for 1998. "We'll have to reduce our investments and rewrite our husiness plan," said Jelena Petkovic, Tigar's representative in Belgrade. "This is a big problem for us."

Tigar's story may become a familiar one if Western governments go ahead with sanctions they have threatened unless Yugoslavia ends the crisis in Kosovo, where ethnic Albanians outnumber Serbs by 9 to 1.

If imposed, the economic sanctions themselves - a freeze ou at least \$100 million in state funds believed held overseas and a moratorium on governmentfinanced export credit support for trade investment - are expected to have a moderate effect,

After years of war and international isolation, Yugoslavia has only recently begun to come up for air. But already, even before a formal decision on sanctions has been made, the threat alone is stopping foreign investors in their tracks and souring husiness prospects in one of Europe's poorest countries.

An American office supply company froze an investment of several bundred thousands of dollars last week in response to the Kosovo situation, Belgrade newspapers have reported that Serbian husinessmen are complaining that their foreign deals are on bold. With a 1997 trade deficit of \$2.4 bil-

lion and a gross national product of just \$16 hillion, Yugoslavia can ill afford further setbacks.

Under previous sanctions, stemming from the inaction on Kosovo and the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Yugoslavia is ZURICH — Any boycott against already ineligible for international loans wise banks by American city and state and aid programs from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Retirees and state workers have been paid in recent months only because of a \$900 million cash infusion last spring from the sale of 49 percent of the main telephone company to a foreign consortium. "Selling the family silver" is what a Western diplomat called it.

Still, the economy, having shrunk hy nearly 60 percent since 1989, had begun turning up with the lifting of most sanctions at the end of the war in Bosnia in 1995. Real wages were also starting to grow, though from a low base. Now the prospect of further sanctions has cast a cloud over the chances for sustained

Miss Petkovic, the Tigar spokeswoman, said the company had a relatively strong year in 1997, selling \$27 million of rubber tires and shoes abroad because of the EU extension of trade credits from May to December. The preferences were suspended, and tariffs imposed, beginning in January because of European concerns on a range of human rights issues, including Kosovo.

But there was a general expectation that the exemptions would be renewed this spring. Buoyed hy that hope, Tigar projected export sales of \$43 million this

Now, a hreak on tariffs is a distant dream. European officials, speaking privately, said the EU would not extend trade advantages to Yogoslav companies as long as the crisis in Kosovo

#### 'No Compromise,' Chirac Tells Party

Agence France-Presse

PARIS - France's mainstream conservatives faced their worst crisis in years on Thursday because of an enticing offer of local election deals from the far-right National Front headed by Jean-Marie Le Pen.

Stepping in for the first time to head off the crisis, President Jacques Chirac on Thursday urged 'no compromise' with the Front.

Facing defeat at the hands of the left in regional and local elections taking place this week and next, a series of incumbents from the mainstream right have struck agreements with the Front in defiance of orders from party headquarters not to cut 'deals with the devil."

Mr. Chirac, founder of the Rally for the Republic, said: "I believe that when one has republican convictions, which is my own case and that of a very great majority of French people, one must make no compromise

Philippe Seguin, leader of the RPR, summoned local leaders to Paris for a meeting aimed at enforcing tight party discipline.



A Serbian policeman in Pristina, the Kosovo capital, directing ethnic Albanian demonstrators Thursday during a protest march they staged against the government crackdown in the troubled province.

# Progress Cited in Talks on Kosovo

man foreign ministers said Thursday that they made significant progress in talks progress, but not a breakthrough."

"We will have to wait and see what outside mediator to attend talks with the outside mediator to attend talks with the

After meeting President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia, Hubert Vedrine of France and Klaus Kinkel of Germany said they would consult other members of a six-nation Contact Group by next Wednesday before deciding whether the threat in Bonn oext Wednesday to discuss their of sanctions on Serbia should be lifted.

The Associated Press

move, the state prosecutor urged a jury

Thursday to senience Maurice Papou to

20 years in prison - not life - for

complicity in crimes against humanity

Jews rounded up under Mr. Papon's

orders before they were deported to

life term for Mr. Papon. 87, who was a

But the prosecutor, Henri Desclaux,

called for a 20-year sentence, saying the

jury should "not make Maurice Papon a scapegoat" for other high-ranking of-

ficials of the collaborationist Vichy re-

The civil party lawyer Arno Klarsfeld contended that Mr. Papon was not on the

order of more heinous French war crum-

inals like Rene Bousquet, France's

By John Schmid

International Herald Trabune

HANNOVER — Donning a pair of virtual-reality goggles, Chancellor Helmut Kohl took his re-election cam-

paign to the Cebit computer trade fair oo Thursday to present himself as a leader

Mr. Kohl is a regular visitor to the

Mr. Kohl's main rival in the Septem-

annual Hannover technology fair, but his

appearance this year has taken on greater

ber election, Gerhard Schroeder, 53, a

Social Democrat; wants to depict Mr.

Kohl, 67, as a man who is too old to

shepherd Germany into the information

age and to represent a nation in which

two-thirds of its 75 million inhabitants

Some Germans have come to see the

race as a choice between Mr. Kohl's

generation and a younger generation of

leaders whose political convictions were

"Good-bye to yesterday: The postwar

Mr. Schroeder, who has a strong lead

generation comes to power," Der

Spiegel, the newsmagazine, pronounced

were born after World War II.

not shaped by the war.

on its cover last week.

at ease in a futuristic wired world.

importance than in the past.

Aoother civil party lawyer. Alain Jak-

Most lawyers for the families of

death camps had demanded a symbolic sectence."

during World War II.

Vichy police chief.

BORDEAUX — In a surprising

BELGRADE — The French and Ger-achieved," Mr. Vedrine told a joint news isters said they failed to reach agreement

will get from other members of the Contact Group," Mr. Kinkel added. Foreign ministers of the group

Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia and the United States - are due to meet

ubowicz, was outraged by the suggested

sentence, saying it put a crime against

humanity on "an equal footing with a

crime of passion or a simple bank rob-

But Michel Slitinsky, who narrowly

escaped deportation, said he was sat-

isfied with the suggested sentence, be-

cause "with a man who is 87 years old, a

20-year sentence is equivalent to a life

The verdict in the six-month trial is

who was free during the trial, is expected

to appeal the decision and could remaio

spend a single day in prison without seeing the sunshine, we will continue to

"As long as Maurice Papon does not

Earlier Thursday, the prosecution

painted a devastating picture of Mr. Pa-

pon as a man who zealously carried out

the cruel measures of the Vichy regime,

then had the audacity to say he had tried

over Mr. Kohl in opinion polls, also used the opening of the Cehit fair to the public

on Thursday to display his affinity for

first public appearance with Mr.

the exhibitions Thursday, the two can-

didates are dinner at the same head table

on Wednesday night at the trade fair's

official opening. They seldom spoke to

each other during dinner, directing most

of their conversation to others at the

table, and parted with a hasty hand-

declined to answer questions about gen-

derlined their quest for generational

change when the Social Democrats an-

nounced a leadership shake-up in the

statehouse of North Rhioe-Westphalia,

The Social Democratic state premier.

Johannes Rau, 67, announced he would

step down in May to make way for his

appointed successor, Wolfgang Clem-

ent. 57, an ally of Mr. Schroeder's pro-

Germany's most populous state.

In the hustle of the fair, Mr. Schroeder

But his party this week explicitly un-

The sprawling fair marked Mr. Kohl's

Although they had separate tours of

the latest technologies.

erational politics.

out of prison for years.

10 save Jews.

suffer." Mr. Slitinsky said.

Jury Asked to Give Papon 20 Years

high-ranking Vichy police adminis- expected late next week. But Mr. Papon,

Serbian government. But they said they were still negotiating the issue. Mr. Vedrine and Mr. Kinkel said they would urge ethnic Albanians to open unconditional talks with Belgrade on the

Serbian province's future, dropping their demands for independence.

'Kosovo Albanians have been supported hy us and we will continue to support them," Mr. Kinkel said, "but we will need to point out that we don't support independence - we support enhanced status that will lead to auton-

The French and German foreign min-

The Albanians have rejected several invitations to talks because Belgrade refuses to discuss their demands for independence - an option also ruled out by the Contact Group. The group wants Belgrade to restore the province's autonomy, which it suspended in 1989.

The five Western members of the Contact Group imposed sanctions on Belgrade last week after the bloody police crackdown on Albanians in Kosovo and threatened to make the sanctious more severe unless the Serbs fulfilled certain conditions, including opening talks with the Albanians within 10

days.

Mr. Milosevic told the visiting ministers he was prepared to meet a special European Union envoy to discuss retations between Belgrade and the 15nation bloc. He also accepted the estahlishment of a Kosovo mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the ministers said.

same age, the Social Democrats said

they wanted to show at the national level

that they were ready to clear the way for

In Hannover, local Social Democrats

painted the generational issue in terms of

the dawning digital age.
"The Kohl generation has nothing to say to the information sector," said

Norbert Phlippen, a spokesman repre-

senting Mr. Clement at Cebit. "The in-

formation society must be led by young-

difficult to understand the new society,"

Germany's generational issues go be-

yond technology. Political analysts say Mr. Kohl's ardor for European integra-

tion grew out of his experiences during

the war, which cost the life of his older

Mr. Kohl's quest to unite Europe next

year with a single currency is an issue of

"war and peace," a phrase used re-peatedly by Mr. Kohl, hut one that con-

fuses some younger Germans, who see

the new money in economic rather than

Mr. Schroeder, known for his skep-

"Those who are 50 and older find it

its younger leaders.

er Germans.

political terms,

Mr. Phlippen added.

brother, who was a solider.

#### BRIEFLY

#### Turkey Jails Police, **But Protests Follow**

ISTANBUL - In the second mathe sentences were far too light.

The murdered journalist, Metin Goktepe, was detained by the police during a funeral for two leftist activists in January 1996. Forensic specialists said he was beaten and kicked, and died of brain hemorrhage and internal hleeding.

Officials of foreign governments including the United States had said they were closely following the case and considered it a key test of Turkey's willingness to prosecute ab-

dure, the five will probably serve two to three years each, which rights advocates said was insufficient given the severity of the crime. The chairman of the Human Rights Association, Akin Birdal, called the verdict "an example of how the state protects torturers." (NYT)

#### Vatican Responds To Critics of Pius

The Reverend Pierre Blet, a Jesuit historian, defended the controversial wartime pontiff four days after Jewish leaders reacted coolly to a Vatican document on the Holocaust

Father Blet reiterated the Vat-

#### Yeltsin Recovering

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin of Russia is recovering from pected to be host to a meeting with German and French leaders next Mr. Yeltsin, 67, has not attended

official functions or been seen on television since last week. But a Kremlin spokesman said Mr. Yeltsin had summoned the head of his administration to a meeting on Thursday and would meet Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Jacques Chirac in Yekaterinhurg, in the Urals, on Wednesday. (Reuters)

NATO should be abolished.

Fischer said.

The anti-NATO vote came as a defeat

for the Green party leader, Joschka Fisch-

er, 49, another product of the postwar

generation who might serve as foreign

Fischer refuses any longer to comment

jor buman rights verdict delivered in Turkey this month, a provincial court sentenced five police officers to seven-and-a-half-year jail terms on Thursday for bearing a journalist to death. Human rights advocates said

usive police officers.

Under normal Turkish proce-

ROME — The Roman Catholic Church's leading historian of the World War II era responded Thursday to accusations that the late Pope Pius XII facilitated the Holocaust

that effectively absolved Pius XII of the long-standing accusations.

ican's position that Pope Pius did not speak out more forcefully for fear of worsening the fate of Cath-olics, as well as Jews, in Germany and Nazi-occupied countries. The Vatican's document on the Holocaust, "We Remember, a Reflection on the Shoah," apologized for individual Catholics who failed to help Jews . (Reuters)

his respiratory infection and is exweek, the Kremlin said Thursday.

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in jail, an aide said on I and the section said the aide, Kr At Computer Fair, Kohl Wires Himself for Re-election has been living in Bair to the land the man been living in Bair to the land to the la en to support himself. Because Mr. Kohl and Mr. Rau are the ticism of the new currency, is a product of the convergence of the Sixties. Since Mr. Schroeder's non-standing a coup with Khmer R. the Sixties. Since Mr. Schroeder's non-state photographs are composed convicted in the Sixties of the standard-bearer for the prince to pay more than party, most profiles of the candidate about the prince to pay more than the party of the candidate about the prince to pay more than the party of the candidate about the party of the candidate about the candidate about the candidate about the candidate are carried to be caused the candidate about the candidate are carried to be caused to be caused

showing a younger Mr. Schroeder participating in leftist railies. Many of the licipating in leftist railies. Many only parties Spar Over voters he wants to lure know only second-hand accounts of World War II.

Generational politics also has played?

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Generational politics also has played?

A parliamentary deba

Generational politics also has played a MAP AP role in Germany's foreign policy debate of the Minister Company's foreign policy debate of the Minister Company of the North Atlantic Telegraphs slowly toward a couch While Mr. Kohl is a statute of the North Atlants the United States and the North Atlants the States of the North Atlants the North Atlan

generation who might serve as read a minister in a Schroeder cabinet, As a minister in a Schroeder cabinet, and minister in a schroeder cabinet cab

11 11 120 0326 / Fax: + 44 1.71 about his ambitions to take over the For-The nearest HIT office or represent eign Ministry, a spokeswoman for Mr.

While Mr. Kohl is a staunch supported a minimed slowly towar the United States and the North Atlantic and along or many wrangling.

ical swings in their views.

The Greens party, the most likely co- relating the government would wir alition partner if Mr. Schroeder prevails was scheduled for Friday pleding of from the United States. alition partner if Mr. Schroede provided plant of plant of from the United States in September, voted this month at a party of plant of from the United States congress to reaffirm an old stance that he of aid to help Thailand if

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Herald Cribune HIP PURITY HARD A EZ-1378

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#### *ASIA/PACIFIC*

# Vajpayee Assumes 2 Key Indian Posts

#### He's Prime and Finance Ministers

By Kenneth J. Cooper

NEW DELHI - India installed Atal Bihari Vajpayee as prime minister on Thursfrom his Bharatiya Janata

The minority coalition have been charged with in-government faces an uncer-citing a riot in 1992 that retain future in a closely divided salted in the razing of a Parliament, in which nearly mosque in the northern town 40 political parties are represented. India elects parliaments for a five-year term. but oone of seven previous coalition governments lasted longer than two years.

Mr. Vajpayee's government, nine short of a majority in the 545-member lower house, expects to survive a vote of confidence next week by the grace of abstentions and vacant seats.

In a bid to extend its expected lifespan, the Bharatiya Janata Party has omitted Hindu nationalist issues from the agenda that the 13-party coalition made public Wednesday and has watered down its protectionist economic

Mr. Vajpayee, 71, has also promised to try to build consensus on controversial leg-

He served as prime minister of a minority govern-ment led by the Bharatiya Janata Party for two weeks in 1996 and as foreign minister of another coalition government in the late 1970s.

In addition to being swom in as prime minister, Mr. Vajpayee also assumed the post of finance minister, Since 1991, finance ministers have played an important role in determining the pace of market-oriented changes in India's

formerly socialist economy. The Bharatiya Janata Party, the largest in 'arliament, dominates the new cabnationalist represents the re- ministers.

atmosphere of their negotiations.

and build confidence.

board. Afghan officials said.

caused the disaster.

gional Shiv Sena party in the

Bharatiya Janata Party's own ministers are a mix of moderates and hardliners. Three of the hardday along with a cabinet dom- liners — Lal Advani, the inated by Hindu nationalists party president; Murli Manohar Joshi, a former president, and Uma Bharati of Ayodhya, prompting communal violence that claimed 2,500 lives across the coun-

> Four cabinet ministers, in-cluding Mr. Joshi, have been prominent critics of foreign investment in India.

> One of them, George Fernandes, when he was industry minister in the late 1970s, forced Coca-Cola and IBM out of the country. The companies did not return for more than a decade.

In the last two weeks, local newspapers have quoted him as threatening similar curbs on international investment. U.S. interests are the leading foreign investors in India.

Another cabinet member, Maneka Gandhi, daughter-inlaw of the former prime min-ister Indira Gandhi, has criticized the recent opening of American fast-food outlets in several cities.

Another, Anant Kumar, opposed holding the 1996 Miss World pageant in the southern city of Bangalore because he said the beauty contest represented a "cultural invasion" from the West,

ted by Hindu nationalists, at least six members of religious minorities received cabinet berths; three Sikhs, two Muslims and one Christian.

About half the cabinet's members come from southern and eastern states where the inet. Of 43 ministers, 25 belong to a party that has lied with regional parties. asserted that a diverse nation Tamil Nadu, the southern of 950 million is bound to- state that is home to the gether by the Hindu major-ity's religion. Another Hindu warded with seven cabinet



Hindu nationalist party workers in Bombay celebrating Thursday after the new Indian cabinet was named

# Pakistan Warns India **Against Arms Race**

GENEVA - Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan of Pakistan warned Thursday that India's statements that it would keep its opious open over nuclear weapons could push South Asia into a 'dangerous arms race.'

In a speech to the Conference on Disarmament, he also called on the 61-member Geneva body - mired in a yearlong stalemate - to make nuclear disarmament its

highest priority for negotiations.

Munit Akram, Pakistan's delegate to the conference, asked the United Nations-sponsored forum to denounce India's policy and urge it not to develop nuclear arms.

Recent public unterances and pronouncements by the BJP president, and also now in their manifesto, that India will go nuclear and acquire and develop nuclear weapons should evoke global concern," Mr. Akram said, referring to India's Bharatiya Janata Party, which leads India's governing coalition.

"South Asia may be pushed into a dangerous arms

race, 'he added. India, which successfully conducted an underground nuclear test in 1974, has said it believes in using atomic energy only for peaceful uses. But Western experts say it already has nuclear weapons or can build them quickly.

Pakistan, another nuclear "threshold" state, has stayed out of the nonprohiferation agreements, citing Indian intransigence as the reason. But Mr. Khan said: "The international community should understand that Pakistan does not wish to expend its scarce resources on a con-

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### Ranariddh Can't Pay, Aide Says

BRIEFLY

GRUYERES, Switzerland — Officials laying the groundwork for peace talks on Korea visited a village in the Swiss Alps on Thursday, hoping the excursion would lighten the

The chief negotiators rode in a bus whose seats were

arranged around tables and conducted business during the

ride. The delegations from North and South Korea, China and

the United States looked relaxed as they arrived in Gruyeres. where they visited a cheese factory.

The South Korean deputy negotiator, Yoo Myong Hwan, said that the ride had given the parties a chance to clarify points.

Crash of Afghan Airliner Kills 22

KABUL — A passenger jet crashed Thursday about 30 kilometers south of the Afghan capital, killing all 22 people on

The Boeing 727 operated by Ariana Afghan Airlines was

One of the passengers was reported to be a Taleban official. The official was not immediately identified. Two of the passengers had begun their trip in the United Arab Emirates. It

was not known whether there were any foreigners on board. The Kabul airport is not equipped with radar, and the plane was seven hours late before the authorities learned it had

carrying 11 crew members and 11 passengers on a domestic flight from Kandahar to Kabul when it crashed in near Musay, in Logar Province. There was no information on what had

Korea Negotiators Get Rolling

BANGKOK - Prince Norodom Ranariddh has no money to pay the more than \$50 million in damages ordered by a Cambodian court, which also sentenced the deposed co-prime minister to 30 years in jail, an aide said on Thursday.

'It's out of the question," said the aide, Kong Vibol, "He's got no money, not even to support himself." Prince Ranariddh has been living in Bangkok off and on since being deposed as first prime minister last July in a coup

led by the second prime minister, Hun Sen. A military court in Cambodia coovicted him in his absence Wednesday of plotting a coup with Khmer Rouge rebels. The court ordered the prince to pay more than \$50 million for damage caused during fighting on July 5-6 in Phnom Penh between forces of the two leaders,

#### Thai Deputies Spar Over Censure

BANGKOK (AP) - A parliamentary debate on whether to declare no confidence in Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai's government moved slowly toward a conclusion Thursday amid some late-night wrangling.

Debate about opium and a dispute over who had the right to speak from the floor marked the proceedings Thursday night. It seemed certain the government would win a vote on the censure motion that was scheduled for Friday.

Mr. Chuan returned from the United States last week with substantial pledges of aid to help Thailand through its economic crisis.

#### ENTERTAINMENT

Appears every Wednesday in The Intermarket. To advertise contact Surah Wershof in our Lundon office  $TeL: \pm 44 \pm 71 \pm 420 \pm 0326 / Fax: \pm 44 \pm 71 \pm 420 \pm 0338$ or your nearest HIT office or representative.

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#### INTERPRETATION IS THE KEY

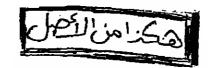
In the banking world, with the explosion of electronic information, everyone has access to the same figures. It is the way we analyse those numbers that can make the difference between success and failure. An analysis of Paribas' numbers is very revealing. Take the numbers 1, 2, 5, 8, 600 and 25.

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Which brings us back to the number '1746' and the problem of what the man bought at the DIY store. At first sight, the numbers just don't seem to add up. Yet if you think about his new circumstances. it does make sense.

The man had moved house. In fact '1746' was his new address. He was buying numbers. http://www.paribas.com

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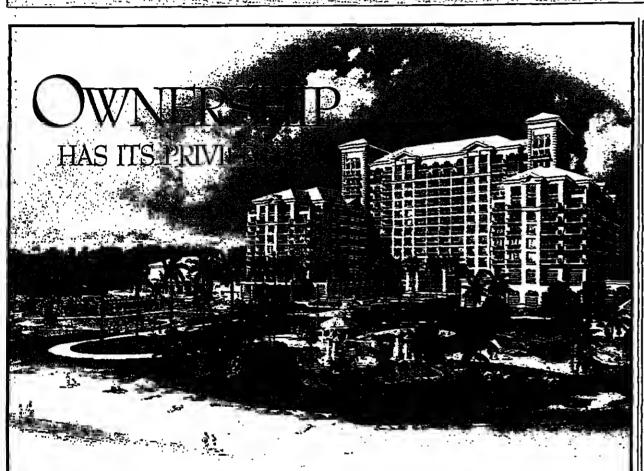
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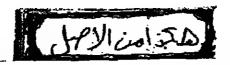
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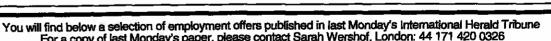
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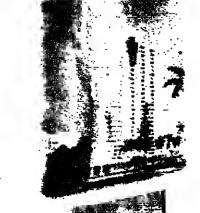
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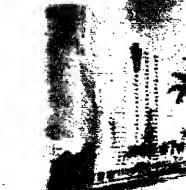
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#### *EDITORIALS/OPINION*

### **Experiment in India**

India embarked on Thursday on a perilous course with the planned instaliation of its first potentially durable Hindu nationalist government. Two years ago the Hindu nationalists lasted only 13 days in power, unable to find any other party to support them. This time, party leaders claim enough coalition votes in survive, although with a minuscule majority. The weak margin may turn out to be a blessing, because party leaders lack the votes to carry out their inflammatory anti-Muslim agenda. Their government will be judged on whether it eases the country's poverty and preserves national unity.

There is reason to hope that the Bharatiya Janata Party will respect the country's secular traditions. Its leader, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has dropped the party's pledge to impose a uniform civil code repugnant to the Muslim minority. Also, the party plans to keep the special status of India's only Muslim state and to refrain from building a Hindu temple at the site of a mosque destroyed by Hindu mobs five years ago. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Vajpayee will be able to quiet zealots in Parliament or curb anti-Muslim vinlence.

The Bharatiya Janata Party's ambiguous postelection agenda has spread anxiety that its government might expand India's nuclear arsenal, oppose foreign investment and raise tensions with Pakistan. But Mr. Vajpayee has a moderate record in these areas. As foreign minister in the 1970s be worked well with Pakistan, and be has not endorsed moves to evict foreign companies from India. One of his greatest tests will be how

he handles various bribery scandals. One coalition partner initially threatened to defect if the party did not block an inquiry into corruption allegations against ber. Mr. Vajpayee

stood firm and rejected her plea.

Meanwhile, the long-ruling Congress Party has chosen Sonia Gandhi, widow of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. as its party leader. Should the Hindu nationalists collapse and the Congress Party return to power, Mrs. Gandhi could become prime minister, an un-thinkable development only six months ago. She has spoken up for the secular values of the party, but many believe that she would like to thwart an investigation into alleged kickbacks to the Gandhi family in the 1980s.

Mr. Vajpayee will need great skill to hold his fractious coalition ingether while pursuing these investigations and addressing India's hnge social and economic problems. Failure could bring down his government, paralyze Parliament and force another election. -THE NEW YORK TIMES.

### Vatican Takes a Step

The Vatican's words on its own measure of responsibility for the deaths of 6 million Jews during the Holocaust have been tensely awaited. Sensitivity runs high on both sides of the divide between those who blame the institutional church for doing less than it could bave to help embattled Jews in Europe and those who saw Catholics as victims and targets of Hitlerism in their own right, and in many cases heroic rescuers.

Given the emotional and moral freight of that debate, and the unavoidably entwined question of whether Catholic doctrine over the centuries played a contributing role, the cautious, hairsplitting tone of the teaching document issued on Monday by the Vatican, which called it an "act of repentance" in preparation for the millennium, is understandable.

Understandable, too, is the disappointment of many, Jewish and Cath-Olic, who had boped for a more direct acknowledgment of institutional sins of omission, like the declarations issued last year by the French bisbops and in 1995 by the bishops of Germany. The document walks up to the line of such acknowledgment many times without ever quite crossing it.

It maintains a firm distinction between the failings of Catholic-Jewish relations through history ("in balance ... quite negative") and the "neo-pa-gan" impulse of Nazism. Some will find this sharply inadequate. But their disappointment must be weighed against the document's many state-

trition for "the failures of her sons and daughters in every age," its probing of difficult questions that it is not quite ready to answer, and the plea for "our Jewish friends ... to bear us with open hearts" - in short, its existence as a

first step, however imperfect. The authors' discomfort is frequently reflected in the phraseology. In early times, it says, Christian mobs attacking pagan temples sometimes attacked synagogues as well, "not without being influenced by certain interpretations of the New Testament regarding the Jewisb people as a whole." In late 18th century Europe, "those who were not Christian did not always enjoy a fully guaranteed juridical status."

When it comes to the key matter of the relation between these views and behavior during the time of the Holocanst, "it may be asked whether the Nazi persecution of the Jews was not made easier by the anti-Jewish prejudices imbedded in some Christian minds and hearts." Did Christians 'give every possible assistance to those being persecuted"? Although many were heroes, "the spiritual resistance and concrete action of other Christians was not that which might have been expected from Christ's followers.

Although these formulations are tormred, they are a great improvement on silence - not least because they allow ground for a respectful conversation about the considerable differences of opinion that remain.

THE WASHINGTON POST.

# Mississippi Files

One of the great lessons of history is that truth, imprisoned, festers and seeks release. When it emerges, bowever ugly, it must be served. It is that kind of time now in Mississippi.

There was a question often asked of strangers there in the 1950s and '60s. an idiom perfectly reflective of the culture, polite on the surface, deadly underneath: You're not from here, are you? It meant that anyone who seemed to threaten segregation, whether an outsider or a black citizen emboldened by the civil rights movement, was seen as a danger to the state.

The legislature's response in 1956 was to create the State Sovereignty Commission For 21 years, while black and white civil rights activists in Mississippi were threatened, chased, beaten, burned out, bombed and murdered by local police and the Ku Klux Klan, agents of the Sovereignty Commission worked in the background, spying, manipulating lives,

Mississippi was not alone in its uneonstitutional shenanigans. Under J. Edgar Hoover, the FBI plotted against those it was supposed to protect. Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama and Florida all created state investigative commissions like Mississippi's 10 fight what Southern legislatures liked to

see as a Communist-integrationist plot. But the 124,000 pages of Sover-eignty Commission files released in Jackson on Tuesday show that Mississippi was breathtakingly flamboyant in its official plotting against the U.S. Constitution and the law. The commission gathered 60,000 names, or roughly one out of every 37 residents

Only about 1,000 people responded to advertisements in The New York Times and other newspapers inviting them to examine their files. The unveiling is slow going. The reporters in Jackson have only one state computer through which to look. The public has two. Thus far, in secret communica-tions that reach from campus policemen in the governor at the time, there is evidence of official willingness to trap, to smear, to fabricate and jail and in consider murder, but no evidence yet that the commission ac-

tually helped do that.

If it did, or did not, is a truth worth knowing, if it can be known. One sobering document is an instruction from the commission's director ordering the destruction of certain files. What remains is a record of statesanctioned terror that demands to be remembered.

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

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# American Boom + Asian Gloom = Total Mystery

WASHINGTON — Reading recent congressional testimony by Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve chairman, I had a scary thought: He doesn't know any more than I do.

By this, I do not mean to compare myself with Mr. Greenspan. He has forgotten more about the economy than I shall ever know. Beyond that, the Fed has a staff of 228 economists and is constandy briefed by companies, banks and governments about individual markets and industries.

What is sobering is that despite these advantages, Mr. Greenspan still seems genuinely baffled by the American economy's dazzling performance and its future direction.

Precisely. The old adage now seems to apply: If you're not confused, you don't understand the situation.

The U.S. economy is booming be-yond belief. In the past year it has created 3.1 million jobs; the unemployment rate (4.6 percent in February) has not been lower since March 1970. Measured inflation is declining. In the past year the consumer price index

has risen by only 1.6 percent. Consumer optimism is at lofty heights. The Conference Board's confidence index touched 138 in February (1985 equals 100), a level not seen since the late 1960s.

On the other hand, the news from has been the plunge in oil prices. Since Asia is not getting better. China's eco-early 1997 they have dropped from \$25 nomy is slowing. Japan may slip into a a barrel to \$15. The United States now recession. Indonesia and the IMF are in a virtual state of war.

Including China and India, Asia represents about 30 percent of the world the lower prices, consumers would economy. Yet its troubles have not save almost \$70 billion.

By Robert J. Samuelson

spoiled American spending or spirits. One explanation is that the benefits of the crisis have come before the costs. The biggest benefit has been lower interest rates, which have triggered a surge in mortgage refinancings.

Frightened by Asia's problems, global investors shifted funds into U.S. bonds and mortgage securities. Bond prices rose; interest rates dropped. Investors accepted lower interest rates in

exchange for more safety.
In early 1997, interest rates on 30year fixed-rate mortgages averaged al-most 8 percent. In 1998 they have hovered at around 7 percent.

David Lereah of the Mortgage Bankers Association estimates that the resulting explosion of mortgage refin-ancings will total about \$400 billion in 1998. On a \$120,000 loan, someone going from 2 to 7 percent would save nearly \$1,000 a year. Lower rates have sustained a high

level of home buying and selling. For 1998, Mr. Lereah expects 4.24 million existing homes to be sold, a record. Americans are moving into more ap-pealing homes and doing a lot of redecorating and renovating.

The second big benefit from Asia

consumes 6.8 billion barrels of oil a year, says economist Michael Canes of the American Petroleum Institute. At

Part of the gain is a wealth transfer

from U.S. oil producers to consumers, but the gain on imports — half of U.S. oil use — is pure windfall. Asia's crisis has cut demand, and OPEC "is falling apart," Mr. Canes says. Countries violate their OPEC quotas. Supply rises, demand softens, prices fall.

America's careless confidence now contrasts dramatically with Asia's deepening fatalism, Economist Marc Faber in Hong Kong

has long been one of the region's prominent pessimists (he calls his regular commentary "The Gloom, Boom & Doom Report"), but even he is stunned. "The Asian crisis has left me shell-shocked," he writes. 'I have never [seen] such a total economic breakdown and massive destruction of wealth."

Economists at the Hong Kong office of Goldman Sachs predict that GDP in 1998 will shrink by 5 percent in Indonesia, nearly 3 percent in South Korea and 1.5 percent in Thailand.

Growth in China stems mostly from more efficient factories; it will not prevent rising unemployment. The Goldman Sachs economists figure that job-lessness could jump by 10 million in

1998 from the streamlining of state-owned enterprises. Somehow, more out-put and fewer jobs seems unhealthy. Meanwhile, the White House wants Japan to spur its economy by cutting taxes or increasing spending by up to \$80 billion. Skepticism abounds that Japan will do much. Says Glen Pukushima, head of the American

Average gasoline prices have Chamber of Commerce in Japan: dropped to about \$1 a gallon from Many in Japan are pleased to say that \$1.20 a year ago; they could go lower. because Japan is so weak, it cannot play because Japan is so weak, it cannot play a strong role in helping Asia recover." How will these crosscurrents inter-act? A continued U.S. boom would ease

Asia's crisis by absorbing more exports; which, up to a point, would dampen U.S. inflationary pressures. But beyond some point, production would suffer in trade-sensitive industries: cars, steel, machine tools, computer chips, textiles. And Asia's full effects on U.S. exports remain to be felt.

There are other hairline cracks in American prosperity. Mark Zandi of Regional Financial Associates points out that credit standards for consumer lending have loosened in the 1990s. People borrow who could not a decade ago, or they borrow more. Lower interest rates may arrest a rise in loan delinquencies and personal bankruptcies, but Mr. Zandi thinks that both could balloon when the economy weakens.

An irresistible force (the U.S. boom) and an immovable object (Asia's crisis) are colliding. I admit to a pessimistic bias, a suspicion that America's boom is more fragile than it seems. High stock prices sustain strong consumer spending, which sustains high stock prices. The economy is vul-

nerable to a dip in either.

I admit that I have peddled this theory for a while, and so far it's a dud. Each phenomenon — the strength of our boom, the severity of their collapse is outside recent experience. The simple truth is that no one

knows what lies ahead.

# New Challenges for Europe, Japan and North America

BERLIN — It is hard to betury has elapsed since some of us Europeans, Japanese and North Americans decided that we should "go trilateral."

At the top of the agenda then was the need to bring in Japan as a full-fledged actor in our efforts to coordinate more closely the policies of the main industrial and democratic countries.

An early result was the socalled Group of Five, later the the Group of Seven. Those were economic summits of which the former French Prime Minister Raymond Barre - one of the initial Sherpas in this exercise - wrote recently that "working independently of our bureaucracies and in direct relation with our respective heads of state and government, we were able to promote solutions for effective trilateral cooperation among the

initial participants.' What is perhaps most striking is now much the agenda has changed for all three regions, and specially for Europe.

America, no longer the America of the Cold War, gropes today for ways to adjust to its new status of sole superpower. Japan has long ceased to be the sole powerhouse of an Asia in a deep, prob-lematical transition. Europe, above all, is unrecognizable

from the Europe we knew.

All of us should be To be sure, it still has a concerned about this.

By Otto Graf Lambsdorff.

double agenda. While holding its own in cooperating with its traditional partners in a rapidly globalizing world, it needs all the while to become even more closely united.

But in a dramatically altered continent that agenda is probably more beavily burdened than ever — with issues which make of Europe the laboratory for the kind of cooperation that will have to develop internationally in the coming years.

On the one hand, we Europeans pursue the deepening of our Union and prepare for the

momentons step of the euro. On the other, our continent's sea change, which prefigure the re-

gional challenges that our part-ners will also have to face.

The question is: Will we Europeans be able to keep our priorities right and handle so heavy an agenda in ways that make us a stronger, rather than a weaker, trilateral partner?

maining true to the old:

Kosovo, we have a grave crisis voice and act decisively in a together in the first place. situation laden with traumatic layers of history.

face a phenomenon that challenges the social fabric of our the European branch of the Tri-highly protected societies: the lateral Commission, which

bow to face the new while re-maining true to the old: jeopardize the old-style welfare state that has become so much a · With the current tensions in part of our democracies.

What has not changed in the change places us at the vanguard on our hands. Having learned past 25 years is the fundamental of the task of enlargement. That our lessons the hard way in the attachment to democratic values demands for institutional change, which prefigure the return that Europe can speak with one. Tapanese and North Americans,

The writer, a member of the • At home, we increasingly Bundestag and a former economics minister, is chairman of aging of our populations. This is holds this weekend in Berlin its I can think of at least two a long-term trend which, unless 25th annual plenary meeting. He telling tests of this capacity, it is addressed as a matter of contributed this comment to the which boil down to knowing argeocy, is doomed to seriously International Herald Tribune.

# Sanctions Don't Bring Burma Democracy

RANGOON — It is time for those of us in Burma's democracy movement to face up to a difficult truth: I'm years have made almost no real pro-

the gress toward democracy.
War, More people are in jail. countless others are suffering from the effects of sanctions, and the military government seems stronger than ever. The National League for Democracy may have won the moral

battle, but it is losing the war. All of us should be deeply I joined the NLD in 1988, desperately poor, and the

worked as an aide to Daw Aliqu after the movement began, we San Sau Kyi and came to know and love her well. I was arrested in 1989, on the same day she was put under house arrest. I spent most of the next three years in Rangoon's Insein pris-on, and was released in a 1992 amnesty with about 100 other -political prisoners.

We were all willing to go to iail because our cause was so important - Burma had been isolated for 26 years, we were

rand was directly involved in an assortment of deals includ-

ing hage bribes to foreign of-

ficials and kickbacks to fi-

nance 'French parties, a ''commission' of \$10 million

to a woman friend of Mr. Du-

mas to advance an arms sale to

Taiwan, and large amounts deposited to Mr. Dumas's ac-

count in cash. He says he can

By Ma Thanegi. years later, all we have pro-

duced is idealistic platitudes. I know that sounds harsh, but we need to be hard on ourselves. people more vulnerable. It is not enough just to criticize
the military regime. We have an obligation to seriously examine

Burma is a poor, agrarian country, and most of our people live without even electricity or our strategies — and if they aren't working, we need to find others that will.

Let's start with sanctions and boycons. The National League for Democracy has focused on these to pressure the military regime to enter a dialogue.

Why didn't the strategy work? It was based on the assumption that the military regime depends on foreign investment to survive. But the regime did not topple when millions of us protested in the streets in 1988. It did not topple when the United States and Japan cut off aid. It did not topple when Washington imposed sanctions. In fact, it now

seems stronger than ever. The second claim about sauctions is that they hurt only the elite, since ordinary people do not benefit from investment. It is true that the clite is benefiting. But so are ordinary

people, who have found jobs in garment factories, construction projects, and hotels. Those may not sound like very good jobs, but we are just at the beginning of economic development, and even a low-paying job is better than no job at all.

Most economists would

benefit more than rural farmers in the early stages of economic growth. So is it sensible to deny some people will get richer than others? In fact, many of ns fear that sanctions are making the

telephones. This makes Burma easy to rule with military, rather than political, methods. But if we encourage large, responsible companies to come in, they can be a strong influence for modemizing and opening the eco-nomy. And if Burma develops economically, it will help pro-mote political development.

The old methods do not work anymore. Governments in modern, developed societies have to respond to the people, rather than the other way around.

There are no easy solutions for Burma, and there is no automatic path to democracy Cambodia is proof of that. But sanctions are a path to nowhere.

Politicians inside and outside the country need to set realistic goals and come up with prag-matic strategies. Politics, after all, is the art of the possible, and the future of millions of people is at stake. Let's drop the platitudes and find realistic ways tot help the people of Burma, not condemn them to poverty in a senseless pursuit of Utopia.

The writer is a painter and writer living in Rangoon. She contributed this comment to the agree that urban elites usually International Herald Tribune.

#### IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Outline for Cuba NEW YORK - A despatch

sent to the Herald yesterday [March 18] from Washington outlined a plan for the peaceful settlement of the Cuban question, which in effect was virtual independence for Cuba, with the Spanish flag flying over the island for three years and absolute freedom to follow in case two-thirds of the inhabitants decree at a plebiscite then to be held that freedom is wanted.

1923: Women Leaders

PARIS - [The Herald says in an Editorial: ] Certain qualities of serious-minded women fit them for some public functions in which many serious-minded men have failed. History has

tively long in contrast with the rarity of the opportunities for public service that have been vouchsafed them. There is, indeed, nothing very wonderful in all this. Has not the woman in all ages been, when capable, the real ruler of the household? Why should not she, who has so wisely presided at the hearth, also preside in the forum?

#### 1948: Palestine Plan LAKE SUCCESS, New York

- The United States asked the

United Nations tonight [March 19] to shelve the plan to par-tition Palestine. Instead, a temporary UN trusteeship would be placed over the Holy Land. Warren Austin, chief American delegate, laid the surprise pro-posal before a meeting of the five big powers and then before shown that women very often five big powers and then before possess the governing instinct, if the Security Council. He asked it may be so called. The list of for an immediate special sessuccessful sovereigns or proved sion of the General Assembly to mistresses in statecraft is relacative through the proposal.

KATHARINE P. DARROW, Vice Charmen

MICHAEL GETLER. Executive Education

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61993, International Herald Tribune. All rights reserved ISSN 0294-8052

NEW YORK — Foreign blips like Iraq and Kosovo have faded from the screen, and the Clinton sex scandal again dominates American thought, People bere are unaware that France has a parallel scandal, similar in many ways but with the key, characteristic difference that what matters to the French is not lying about sex

but about money.
The rest of the world is bewildered, mocking, appalled that the issue of American affairs should be the president's private behavior.

Americans, rejecting the charge of bypocrisy, find it irritating that what they consider cynical foreigners do not appreciate the prime importance of speaking truth under oath. Nothing illustrates more sharply the contrast in how Americans view themselves and their country these days and how they are perceived from abroad.

"How is it," a distinguished New York lawyer complained, "that Europeans and others don't see the real issue here? It's about perjury, obstructing justice and the rule of law, character in leadership. Their press doesn't go after these things, and that's why they

can't get rid of corruption."

I told him that from outside, what weighs about the United States is that it is a superpower. It tries to tell the world about whether there should be war in Iraq, what to do about Asia's financial crisis, the fu-ture of NATO and, a special burr for the French, to watch its colossal movies. Its Congress disdains the United Nations and wants to dictate who can trade with whom.

Other people wonder bow a

country with such heavy re-

By Flora Lewis

sponsibilities - and, some would say, pretensions - can devote its attention to such frivolous pecadilloes.

Superpower or Super-Gossip?

To the New York lawyer, it is the very bedrock of the American system, the rule of law, that is at stake. Americans see themselves not as rulers of the world bul as guardians of certain standards which they must apply at bome if the country is to have

influence abroad.

I asked him if, had he known then what he knows now about the private behavior of John Kennedy, he would have thought that Kennedy should be reprimanded in public and driven out of the office.

It was a hard question. He answered reluctantly, but, being from Boston, he knew a lot about Kennedy clan shen-anigans. Gulping, he said "yes." Yet John Fitzgerald Kennedy is a world hero. His image is Camelot.

The French magazine Marianne recently ran a cover story under the beading "If France applied American requirements, it could never have kept a president." There was a long series of titillating bits about successive leaders, all more or less already known, all brushed aside, perhaps with a smirk but with no sign of indignation.

The current scandal focuses on Roland Dumas, now head of the Constitutional Council, which makes him roughly equivalent to chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He was a close friend of the late President François Mitterrand and served as his foreign minister for several years. By implication, Mr. Mitter-

justify it all. Two determined women judges are pursuing the investigation. The press is follow-ing the inextricable complications cautiously, binting, but with great delicacy, at what might be the relations between Mr. Dumas and Christine

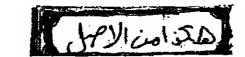
Deviers-Joncour, who, in addition to the commission and a high salary, was given a credit card by the state-owned oil company Elf to spend \$35,000 a month as she wished. She bought a handmade pair of shoes for Mr. Dumas costing \$2,000, and expensive

clothes for herself. The story could lead very far into bow publicly owned French companies deal with foreign governments and their own. But it probably won't It is an embarrassment to the current Socialist government, which has avoided comment.

The French public minds about the devious use of money, but apparently not about the personalities. There is a tendency to consider this a more dignified, urbane way to deal with misconduct in high places than America's prurient frenzy. The big difference is whose

dirty linen is exposed. Superpower or not, Americans want lo see themselves as morally upstanding. To the rest of the world what matters is their conduct as a superpower. Flora Lewis.

OPINION/LETTERS



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# It's Time to Wrap Up The Capital Sideshow

By E. J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — So wheo does it end? Will we spend has grounds for suspecting a large Clinton cover-up and also the next 22 months talking about President Bill Clinton's sex life? True, it's not just about sex. It is about character and, perhaps,

obstruction of justice, lying and

sexual harassment.
Yes, Kathleen Willey made a powerful presentatioo against the president. She appeared credible enough that it was hard for Anita Hill's defenders not to come forward on Mrs. Willey's hehalf. Some of them - notably Ms. Hill herself and Patricia Ireland of the National Organiza-

Total to the total t tion for Women -- did. And it is difficult not to be upset with the president. Since he knew that his behavior with women was destined to be an issue, why didn't he go out of his way to avoid situations that might even appear to be compromising? If you beheve a vast right-wing conspiracy is out to get you, you watch your back and you behave.

The contents of the street of Still, there is a core problem with this story, and it is one of the reasons why the public still has out turned on Mr. Clinton. In this controversy, it is possible to believe that everyone is right.

You can be fairly certain that the president did things he should not have and also know that some of his enemies will do anything to bring him down, no matter what he did.

large Clinton cover-up and also surmise that Mr. Starr, smarting

from attacks, will do whatever it takes to get the president. You can believe there are women with legitimate complaints against Mr. Clinton and also doubt some things his accusers have said.

You can believe that the Clinton camp will trash whomever it has to for the sake of survival, and that Mr. Clinton shaves the truth when he has to, and still wonder: Are all these charges really true?

You can go on like this forever, but to what end? The issue before the country is whether we Americans want to spend the rest of the Clinton term parsing his morality and analyzing the motives of his critics. Mr. Starr could keep inves-

women and hoping to turn old witnesses. Mr. Clinton can figure out a strategy to survive nearly All this is more eotertaining than, say, campaign reform, Iraq.

tigating, trying to turn up new

Medicare, education, the Asian crisis and child care. It is time to say 'enough." It is time to decide: Do we want to let the president govern, or do we

right to question Newt Ginwant him to leave? We already know this case will be decided in Congress, So cial committee

inquiry now and send his report politicize a process that should to the House. If he has outstandbe carried out in a judicious and ing prosecutions, let him go objective manner," Mr. Canady ahead while Congress ponders. said in a letter to Mr. Gingrich, Congress should deal with Mr. Starr's findings fairly but expedthe House speaker. Once the issue moves to Con-

itiously, using the House Jodi-ciary Committee headed by Rep-resentative Henry Hyde, Rep-ublican of Illinois, a man respec-ted by members of both parties. ress and the Paula Jones case is decided, President Clintoo will have no more excuses to prevent him from speaking out. And let Congress make its decision before November's elections so the voters can render a verdict on

Congress' verdict.
Many legislators in both parties would prefer delay. But the voters do not seem to want that, and natter what he did. let's move it to Congress fast. committee' would be attacked as postponing the day of recked You can believe that Ken Starr Mr. Starr should wind down his an attempt to stack the deck and also carries a political price. postponing the day of reckoning

scientists Benjamin Ginsberg and Martin Shefter wrote a pres-cient book, "Politics by Other Means," in which they argued that the power of the people to decide important matters through elections had been supplanted by a new kind of politics. It is built around press disclosures, judicial

Eight years ago, the political

proceedings and invesogations.
They could not have imagined how far this move away from deliberative democratic politics would go. It is time to shut down the sideshow, decide Mr. Clinton's fate and, yes, restore power to the people.

Washington Post Writers Group



'Call Mr. Starr – Myrtle's been groped!'

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Representative Charles Can-

ady. Republican of Florida, was

grich's idea of setting up a spe-

"The creation of a 'select

# and change Clinton Bashing

Regarding "Willey Account

(March 18): My mother taught me in the 1950s that, in sexual encounters, L the girl, had the upper hand.

All women have experienced encounters with "predatory" men. There's the tap-tap oo the knee under the table; the arm around the shoulders, accompanied by an unnecessary squeeze, 

fallen hopelessly for your charms, will have the good sense and class a humorous comment can act as to keep their mouths shut aftercold water. If the attraction is mutual, well, Katy bar the door!

But please, unless he is wielding a weapon, strung out on drugs or booze or accompanied by thuggish friends - in other words, unless he is bent on rape - do oot resort to the "victimization"

At my age, the issue is moot, but I hope that my daughters and other womeo of their generation will not allow themselves to be so If he's a cad, a brisk "Get your victimized. I also hope that, [expletive] bands off me" will should they agree to a ciandestine

usually do. If he's an old friend, sexual encouoter with a man, they

CAROL ALLEN.

Women would not be suing or speaking out against Bill Clinton if he were not president. (Can ooe even begin to imagine how backed up the courts would be if every woman who had experienced unwanted advances from men were to press charges?)

I am not defending unwanted advances, but since President Clintoo did nothing that caused the president have been embar-

these women to run screaming for help at the time of the alleged incidents, one has to wonder at the veracity of their claims, Could the promise of fame and fortune be

their motivatioo? Let's get rid of these cases and get on with the important matters of the world.

MARY H. THOMPSON. Louveciennes, France.

Like Bill Clinton, I, too, am "mystified." In my case, however, I am mystified about his behavior.

The recent scandals involving

rassing. As an American woman, I cannot understand why the Democratic Party has not asked him, for the good of the country, to

P. CHRISTOFFERSON. London.

I eojoy William Safire's language columns dealing with the origins and usage of words and sayings. Recently, however, he has been tediously using almost every column to take a gratuitous shot at Bill Clintoo. Enough already

J. DONALD OSTROW.

### In Paris, a Golden Flame **Draws Diana's Pilgrims**

By Gwen Davis

into the tunnel where occurred the crash with the higgest reverberations since the one in 1929.

Diana died next to the Pont de l'Alma. On a concrete island near the bridge is a replica of the Statue

#### **MEANWHILE**

of Liberty's flame. It was given by the International Herald Tribune, on the occasion of the paper's centennial in Paris in 1987, as a symbol of French-American friendship.

Today, the gold leaf of the flame is scratched with Diana's name. Beneath the torch are flowers, notes, graffiti. Angry words are etched into the marble base. There are pictures of Dodi and Diana on their sunlit Riviera holiday, and signs in English and Arabic.
"Our only Queen is dead,"

Pilgrims — and the flame has become nothing less than a pilgrimage site - are unable to go into the tunnel to visit the actual crash scene, so they bring their flowers and ootes and sadness and morbid curiosity to this spot. Nearly all of them seem to think the flame is officially there as a monument to Diana.

That was the description I got from a Frenchwoman who had lived in Paris all her life. As conspicuous as the torch is, no one apparently paid it much attention until last August. The multitudes, it seems, imagine it then sprang up

overnight, in remembrance. Now they come to see it as they would the Eiffel Tower, which rises in the misty oear distance. Rarely are there fewer than a dozen people gathered round the

flame, reading the messages. One: "The British government killed her because her husband is a Musselman, but they cannot kill her becaose she will already be a Musselman in heaveo because she

We have all heard the rumors. A taxi driver in London said the accident was "very convenient," happening as it did out of sight in a tunnel. A taxi driver in Paris said the pyloo the car struck had hardly a nick, while the car was demol-

But conspiracy theories have Herald Tribune.

carried his child."

PARIS — In the background always raged around the deaths of charismade people, from Abrawhoosh of traffic as it speeds down ham Lincoln (the secretary of war

did it) to JFK to Marilyn. Only President McKinley's assassina tion is not questioned, probably because he was boring. In truth, as people friendly with Dodi al Fayed will tell you, he

liked to go fast, liked to put off the media even while courting them.
Once, the soft-porn star Koo
Stark (who was then dating Prince Andrew) was in the back seat of Dodi's limousine in New York. He made the driver go 90 miles (145 kilometers) an hour at midnight along Madison Avenue, through red lights. Everyone was

thrown to the floor, including the professional gossip from Los Angeles who told me this story.

Dodi and Diana "helicoptered to see Diana's psychic who was dying of cancer, and she told them they were soul mates," he also told me.

"Why didn't she tell them not to go near the tunnel?" I asked.

Diana died at the moment of her greatest radiance, and the work that she did had power --- so much so that she did, in effect, posthumously win the Nobel Peace Prize.

And though there are no more flowers around Kensington Palace - where they lay, waisthigh, after the funeral, their perfume discernible for miles flowers are brought nearly every

day to the golden torch. Recently I chanced by as an angry Parisienne was clearing the flowers away and tearing off the notes, while her companioo tried to remove some of the graffiti. A policeman gave him a ticket because he was illegally parked.

The woman screamed at the cop: "Why are you punishing him? Why doo't you punish the idiots who desecrate this place? It's immoral, This is supposed to be a symbol of friendship between

France and America!" I asked for her name, saying I intended to write about the site. "Write to Chirac!" she shouted, refusing to give her name, "Maybe he will do something."

The outhor is an American writer living in Paris. Her new novel "West of Paradise," will be published in May. She contributed this comment to the International

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#### HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL: The Spectacular Rise and Violent

Egenda Fall of Death Row Records ..., அ. நடிய -By Romin Ro. Doubleday. 

Reviewed by Neil Strauss

TN the 1990s, music executives have
the mike Br of become figures as legendary, comand military is pelling and often as scandalous as some selections from Fredric Dannen's bestthe reciling "Hit Men," published in 1990, pullished for a portrayed the industry as a corrupt, creating the -misogynist, double-dealing hig busi-

After that book came a highly visible expense description of lavish record deals worth tens of millions of dollars and a heap of in popular solutions of dollars and a heap of the high high the hi

As if to answer this hunger in the demonstrate and a 190s, Suge Knight rolled into the music jude 100 public appetite. industry, a 315-pound banquet cart of music scandal who had eight criminal conmissions with an eight criminal control of the c who had eight criminal con-victions and five contracts on his life in the six years he was an executive had the six years he was an executive before points. Polinical the possible of the

the positive of the gangsta-rap label he ran, Death and the positive Row (once home to Tupac Shakur, Row (once home to Tupac Shakur, since home to the home where enemies were pistol-whipped or implications with a dangerous battleground where enemies were pistol-whipped or implications were beaten at company enemings and contract negotiations made with baseball beautiful files.

The rise are the payola and sexual payo of Burnet harassment to a dangerous battleground where enemies were pistol-whipped or

of pop music in the '90s, culminating in the drive-by shootings of two top rap-H H P M. 1 > 10 - 75 A Y (1) 50 YEARS 10

**BOOKS** pers, Shakur and Notorious B. L.G. And Ronin Ro, a hip-hop writer known for

first to try to tell the story completely. "Have Gun Will Travel" is a definitive book chronicling the violent world of Death Row. Never has there been a label quite like it. Ro writes about the label's offices, where messengers and other visitors were known to be robbed: "If Soge felt someone was trying to cheat him, the Offender would be dragged into a storeroom by his goons and pounded to a bloody pulp. Death Row employees went about their filing and faxing as bloodcurdling shricks filled the office. They saw the doorknoh jerking, knowing that people were des-

perately trying to escape a beating." With all the beatings, lawsuits, unsolved murders, million-dollar swindles and gang activity surrounding Death Row, it would be hard to write a book on the label that wasn't a page-turner. "Have Gun Will Travel" mixes Ro's own reporting, which relies heavily on the testimony of a few minor players, and his coverage of Knight's probation hearings, with mostly unattributed quotations that originally appeared in The Source, Vibe and The Los Angeles Times.

It is, for the most part, a straight chro-

nological account that reads like a long, well-researched newspaper article with a few juicy rumors thrown in for spice. Parts of the book appear to have been quickly written: stories are repeated almost verbatim, typographical errors are common and there are moments of sheer stupidity. For example, Ro says about the street gang the Avenue Cribs: "During this period there was nothing glamorous (or marketable) about the group. They did not have identifying colors; they didn't commit drive-by shootings." After calling drive-hys glamorous and marketable, he goes on to describe shooting white police officers as macho and

the crying of a man in a courtroom as a "shocking outburst" because of its femhis work with The Source magazine and a previous book on gangsta rap, is the only in the homophobic world of rap.

In chronicling Knight's path from high school athlete to Los Angeles Rams football player to car thief to bodyguard to record executive to convict, Ro also offers histories of West Coast gangsta rap, Los Angeles street gangs, the political war against gangsta rap lyrics, Death Row rivals like Combs and imprisoned drug dealers like Michael Harris, who claims to have given the label its seed mooey.

More interesting than these previously reported incidents, however, is Ro's indictment of major corporations that did business with Death Row-Sony and then Interscope Records, owned by Time Warner and later sold in part to Seagram. Ro claims that they knew about Death Row's violent business tactics, watched as its employees were "threatened and slapped around" by Death Row thugs and nonetheless "turned a hlind eye to the violence" so long as money could be made; the label took in some \$100 million annually.

While Death Row's critics have called the violence that enveloped the company a case of life imitating art, "Have Gun Will Travel" shows that the situation was actually much more complex.

Sometimes life did imitate art, and sometimes art imitated life; sometimes success hred greed, and sometimes bad tempers were mistaken for good husiness sense. But most of the time the problems that plagued Death Row were a result of the street following the label into the corporate world.

But the story is not complete: major characters like Snoop Doggy Dogg have broken their silence on the label since the writing of this book, and others like Suge Knight have yet to come clean. There is still another, better book to be written.

New York Times Service

#### **BRIDGE**

#### By Alan Truscott

them. There a Han first the woman the word of the wo diagramed seal from a region-discarded the diamond jack. al team championship in East threw the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have a light first seat opening from West, Bob Levin found lumself in a shaky three notuning the found form when the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and West was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and west was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and west was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and west was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and west was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and west was in trouble. If he have the spade queen, and we have the spade queen, and we have the spade queen. A STREET, ME He would have been de-

Land States at the obvious span out West did not want to give a trick to the spade king and led the diamond ten.

Dunny's queen won the trick

Looking at all four because of the world you choose defend re-

and allian Blanchard were position shown below.
South led the last club and

WEST **♠** Q J 10 9 **♦ A 7 6** ♥ Q 6 SOUTE **♦** K82 ♥J8 O A J

heart trick eventually. If he not easy. threw a spade, South would succeed by ducking spades West threw a heart, but that

> the heart king from dummy, crashing the queen and establishing his ninth trick. West had gone astray in discarding. If in the diagramed position he had held one more spade and one fewer heart, South would have been helpiess. East would then throw a heart, and South would be squeezed be-

If South gave up a diamond, West would do like-

part of his opening hid, hot a gave up a diamond, South wise. And if South threw a heart lead would lead to quick could cash the diamond ace heart West could afford to defeat. Instead he cashed five and take a heart finesse throw a spade. The defense His newly weds Bob Levin chuh winners and reached the against the queen, scoring a should prevail, hat it is NORTH

♥ K 10 4 3

• Q6 ◆ A R Q 5 4 2 was no better. Reading the position perfectly, Levin led EAST (D) ·WEST ◆ QJ 109 ∇A97 ◆ A 7643 ∇ Q 62 → K 109S **⇒732** ♣ 10 S S SOUTH 4 K 8 2 ♥ J S 5 **4 A 3 5 4 ♣** J S 3 North and South were vulnerable Ang:
South West
Pass 1 4
2 N.T. Pass
Pass Pass North 2 # 3 N.T. West led the diamond ten-

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#### INTERNATIONAL

# **Old Mideast Hand Going to Iraq**

#### U.S. Diplomat Joining Arms Inspectors at Presidential Sites

By Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York -The Clinton administration has nominated an Arabic-speaking American envoy with wide experience in the Middle East to the corps of diplomats who will join in inspections of eight Iraqi presidential properties for weapons of mass

The inspections of previously off-limits sites, part of an agreement made last Annan and President Saddam Hussein of fraq, could begin as early as next week. Ryan Crocker, former ambassador to Kuwait, will be the first American diplomat on assignment in Iraq since 1990. when the United States closed its em-

looked after by Poland. Mr. Crocker, 48, will be part of a pool of diplomats from 20 countries, including all five permanent members of the

bassy in Baghdad. U.S. interests are

Several envoys, who are expected to Unscom, said in an interview be on standby in Baghdad when in-spections begin, will be selected from that pool to observe inspections. that he hoped to begin looking at all eight sites in a series of inspections beginning by the

Nations Special Commission, known as spot inspections are likely to Unscom, which has been disarming Iraq follow, based on information

The arrangement under which Uuscom inspectors will be observed for the sador to Kuwait from 1994 to first time by diplomats gave Iraq a way to back away from its ban on visits to the sites, which are scattered throughout the

One property is the Republican Palace in Baghdad, where Mr. Annan and Mr. Hussein met on Feb. 22.

Iraq had complained that arms inspectors, who are seeking signs of biological and chemical weapons programs as well as missile production, were not sufficiently respectful of presidential properties.

Other inspections have continued ithout serious interference. Richard Butler, executive chairman of

nat pool to observe inspections.

They will be carried out by the United end of the month. Other return gathered in the initial tours.

Mr. Crocker was the ambas-1997 and director of the State Department's Iraq-Kuwait Task Force after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. He has also served as a diplomat in Egypt, Iraq, Qatar and Iran.

First Diplomatic Team Named

Jayantha Dhanapala, the envoy appointed by Mr. Annan to organize the diplomatic representatives for UN teams in Iraq, announced Thursday who will accompany the first round of inspections. The Associated Press reported

One senior diplomat from each of the forward two candidates each.



Jayantha Dhanapala explaining how diplomats will be assigned to Iraq inspections.

five permanent members of the Security Council - Britain, France, China, Russia and the United States - and 15 other countries are expected to travel to Bahrain this weekend, Jayantha Dhanapala of Sri Lanka said at a news conference.

The diplomats were chosen from a pool of 56 that was drawn up after 28 countries responded to a call to some 60 diplomatic missions in New York to put

#### CLINTON: Dealing With Starr Report

#### Continued from Page 1 -

Their plan envisages the appointment investigation, has not yet testified.

As: Mr. Starr's prosecutors begin of a small group of House members. drawn primarily but perhaps not ex-drafting their report, knowledgeable clusively from Mr. Hyde's committee. lawyers said they are concerned that they The select panel would examine ev- not look as if they are acting in a political idence assembled by Mr. Starr's inquiry of financial transactions by Mr. Clinton and his wife, primarily during the 1980s, and the more recent allegations that Mr. Clinton lied about his relations with a whether they need any sort of court number of women and tried to obstruct approval to send to Congress a report justice related to their testimony."

Mr. Hyde, who bridled at earlier suggestions that Mr. Gingrich might pre-empt his committee, told the speaker he would be willing to accept some members from outside the committee if their participation would assure broader support in the House for whatever recor mendations the smaller group might make, officials said.

Sources said senior members from other committees might carry more weight than some of the junior members of the Judiciary panel less well known to their colleagues and to the public. Mr. Gingrich and Mr. Hyde agreed that the panel would be bipartisan, presumably meaning that the Democratic leadership would decide the makeup of the minority side.

group examine Mr. Starr's evidence at the office of the independent counsel to avoid being bound by House rules mak-ing material in the files of any standing committee available to any member of the House. He said that the formulation would give Mr. Starr assurance that evidence critical to possible future criminal prosecutions would not become

public inadvertently.

Officials said the speaker and Mr.

Hyde agreed that if the small group decided it had seen evidence sufficient to suggest the possibility of an impeachable offense, it might ask Mr. Starr to sum up the case against Mr. Clinton and ask the president's attorneys to offer their rebuttal.

Only then, according to the plan, would this group recommend to the Judiciary Committee whether a formal impeachment investigation be begun.

Mr. Starr's office already is preparing a report for Congress detailing the evidence of possible perjury and obstruction by Mr. Clinton in the Monica Lewinsky matter. The independent counsel's office has not yet decided whether to supplement that report - which it hopes to complete within two or three months - with evidence suggesting there have been patterns of perjury and obstruction in other areas of the Whitewater financial investigation, or to treat Whitewater issues in a separate report.

Mr. Starr's office also has been considering timing and procedural issues that could be affected by the current Gingrich-Hyde scenario.

Prosecutors have been mulling how quickly to dispatch the report - whether, for example, to send it promptly even if it's not complete, or to wait until testimony from all witnesses before Mr. Starr's grand jury is obtained, according to lawyers who have some knowledge of discussions taking place.

#### have expressed skepticism, as a matter of political reality, that impeachment would proceed if Mr. Clinton continues to enjoy the broad public support almost every poll has recorded since the Lewinsky alle-gations became public in January. BRIEFLY Israeli Hacker Stirs Mr. Hyde recommended that the Praise and Cauti

JERUSALEM -- Au 18-year-old Israeli master hacker accused of having launched the most organized

tape recorded conversations with a friend sparked the current phase of the

manner - either by rushing the report or taking so long that its completion co-incides with the fall campaign. Pros-

ecutors also have been considering

approval to send to Congress a report

that contains grand jury evidence, in-

chading tape recordings, depositions and

physical evidence. The same concern presumably would arise if members of

Congress were to ask to examine such

Congressional Republicans generally

evidence at Mr. Starr's office.

having launched the most organized attack ever on the Pentagou's computer system earned praise Thursday from Israel's prime minister.

"Damn good," Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said when asked what he thought of the hacker, who was put under house arrest Wednesday and had his computer taken away. "Very dangerous, too." taken away. "Very dangerous, too," Mr. Netanyahu added quickly.

The suspect, who calls himself "The Analyzer" and was identified by the U.S. Justice Department as Elmd Tenebaum, was questioned Thursday by a special police anti-

#### Jerusalem Cleric **Defends Bombings**

JERUSALEM — Jerusalem's top Muslim cleric says attacks against Israeli civilians are legitimate as long as Israel continues to occupy Palestinian lands.

Jerusalem's grand mufti, Ikrima Sabri, told reporters visiting from Cairo on Wednesday night that Is-lamic suicide bombings were a le-gitimate response to the Israeli Army's action against Palestinians.

"It isn't a matter of whether these bombings are legitimate or not," Mr. Sabri said. "Their army kills innocent women and children, the bombers kill innocent civilians. Why does the army have the right to do that and we don't?" (Reuters)

#### Advice to Argentina

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's former President, Raul Alfonsin, said Thursday that Argentines had the right to take up arms and fight if the Supreme Court decided to allow Carlos Saul Menem to run for a third consecutive term as president.

'We all have the obligation to defend the constitution, the right to resist oppression and the necessity, indeed the duty under Article 21, to take arms in defense of our country and the constitution," Mr. Alfonsin, who was president from 1983 to 1989, said ou a local radio station.

(Reuters)

#### For the Record

Chile's constitutional tribunal

# **Lott Calls for Camdessus** To Be Fired as IMF Chief

WASHINGTON - Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader and a longtime critic of the International Monetary Fund, said Thursday that the institution's

managing director should be dismissed.
But Mr. Lott also said he thought legislation requiring the United States to pay its bills to the IMF would pass in the senate, with conditions attached.

"I would like us to get rid of the head of the IMF," the Mississippi Republican said. "'He's a Socialist from France. Am

#### New Plan by U.S. Reported in Israel

JERUSALEM - Israel said Thursday that the United States had offered ideas for breaking a year-old deadlock in Israeli-Palestinian peacemaking, and an Israeli newspaper said that Washington might go public with them as early as next

The Ha'aretz newspaper said that Secretary of State Madeleine Al-bright would invite Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, to separate meetings in Europe. She will explain the plan before poblicizing it, the paper said, to try to get them to accept it.

I'm not aw e of an Americai plan as such," Mr. Netanyahu said Thursday without elaborating. "I'm aware of American ideas and we're always eager to exchange ideas with the United States about advancing the process."

Speaking at a joint news con-ference with Chancellor Viktor Klima of Austria, the Israeli leader denied having been invited to talks with Mrs. Albright. The United States, Israel's closest ally, is also the main Middle East peace (Reuters, AP)

#### **BBC**: Expansion in U.S.

**Continued from Page 1** 

mentary programs that was introduced in Latin America in October. Discovery, owner of the Discovery Channel and The Learning Channel in the United States, has recently begun six channels for digital cable and satellite delivery.
In addition, Discovery will spend

\$100 million to market BBC America, which will offer everything from the comedy series Black Adder to period dramas like Pride and Prejudice and BBC World news. Mr. Hendricks predicted the channel would reach as many as 25 million homes within two years. The deal is the latest in the string of

commercial ventures, including the launching in October of a 24-hour news ported to have died in riot-related vichannel on British cable television and a 1996 agreement with a subsidiary of but the circumstances of those deaths Tele-Communications Inc. to develop remain largely unclear. thematic cable channels for Britain. Tele-Communications, the No. 2 U.S. cable company, also owns a stake in Discovery Communications.

£2 billion budget from commercial ven- African studies at the University of Lontures, and wants to triple that amount But commercial broadcasters told a House of Commons select committee on television regulation Thursday that the BBC was abusing its public-service role, since it gets 95 percent of its funding through a license fee paid by British television viewers.

The introduction of BBC America on people who threw rocks." March 29 also raises doubts about the BBC's co-production deals with PBS, because a group of small-time kerosene including the Masterpiece Theater and Mystery programs. Harry Forbes, a spokesman for PBS, said he hoped the prices overnight. This caused panic in big audience of the U.S. public network would continue to attract the BBC.

The BBC's expansion also struck lighting. some British critics as untimely, given a growing British preference for Amer-rise, according to Zakky Ubaid, a leadican situation comedies like "Frasier."

given up watching British sitcoms and now rely upon the Americans for so-

Asked whether he agreed with IMF policies, Mr. Lott said: "Quite honestly, I do not. Do I think there should be transparency to see who they are making those loans to and what they're doing with it and who it's going to? Absolutely. This is America. It ought to be

open. It's taxpayers' money."
The IMF's managing director, Michel Camdessus, 64, has completed just over a year of his third five-year term as head of the fund. He was appointed by its executive board for a fixed term that cannot be prematurely ended by the U.S.

Congress.

The IMF's articles of agreement say 'shall cease to the managing director "shall cease to buld office when the executive board so

Mr. Camdessus was previously the governor of the Bank of France and served as director of the French Treasury during a Socialist administration betweeu 1982 and 1984. The high-profile position traditionally goes to a senior

#### ■ Pleas for IMF and UN Funding

Eric Schmitt of The New York Times reported from Washington: Three members of President Bill Clin-

ton's cabinet warned Wednesday that American economic and security interests will suffer badly if Congress fails to approve new financing for the In-ternational Monetary Fund and pay its back dues to the United Nations.

Speaking in grave terms, Defense Secretary William Cohen, Secretary of Secretary Robert Rubin went to Capitol Hill to plead for \$18 billion for the monetary fund, nearly \$1 billion for the United Nations and \$2.5 billion for military costs in Bosnia and the Gulf and for

disaster relief. "Our national security, and war and peace, are at risk by not having appropriate payment of UN arrears," Mr. Rubin said at a news conference. "The fi-

nancial stability of the world is at risk." The House and Senate are considering the requests, but the emergency spending bills have become entangled in partisan bickering, anti-abortiou amendments and many Republicans' deep

distrust of international organizations. Without quick approval of the spend-ing hills, Mrs. Albright said, "we're in danger of shutting down U.S. national security policy.

Emphasizing that American economic and security goals are interlocking, espe-cially in countries like Thailand and South Korea, Mr. Cohen said, "We need to move on the IMF funds as quickly as possible." The joint appearance reflected a

growing unease at the White House that two of President Clinton's top foreign policy priorities — financing for the mouetary fund and payment of the United Nations dues — faced formidable obstacles.



and the first lady. Mr. Clinton is slated to visit Ghana on his African tour. sexual relationship with Mr. Clinton in

### GHANA: Frantic Preparations Are Under Way for Clinton Visit

Continued from Page 1

United States accords Africa this kind of attention. There will be reminders, too, of how unequal the discussion can be whenever the Americans do come.

Whether the subject is Washington's current emphasis on commerce in its policy toward the continent - summed up in the phrase, 'trade not aid" - or something so simple as traffic and security arrangements, African officials may soon discover that with a guest this important, having the last word is next to

impossible.

Many Ghanaian officials broach the topic of Mr. Clinton's impending visit with distinct pride in the fact that the White House has chosen their country at all, not to mention that it will be the

president's first stop. Others involved in making sure the visit comes off successfully, however, are already well-versed in scarcely imagined difficulties in the details. First, of course, was the hotel issue. Ghana's bustling capital has over 500 topflight hotel rooms, putting it within range

spending the night, his advance team, security people and assorted aides and guests will be scattered across 24 hotels, prompting one diplomat to remark, You can imagine the logistical nightmare involved in keeping everything clicking."

With a mixture of amused wonderment visits that resemble a cross between a after a scare and a health department

inspection of a neighborhood diner.

'I'll never forget watching one of Castle with a clipboard saying: 'This will have to go. That's fine right there. And, oh, is there any way you could move this furniture?'' said one assistant to Ghana's president, Jerry Rawlings.

"When we reached the outside, they

of the Clinton delegation's needs, but it took one look at the huge generator we turns out that the largest, and perhaps best have and said that it wouldn't do.

'The woman actually asked if we could replace it,' Mr. Rawlings' assistant said, referring to a large, multimil-

Even though Mr. Clinton will not be lion-dollar piece of heavy equipment. And when the government politely declined to replace the generator at the state house, Mr. Clinton's assistants began planning to fly in one of their own for use during his planned eight-hour stopover here.

As for the press center, in a country where placing even a local call can require and slight irritation, Ghanaian officials persistence, the Ghanaian official said the tell stories of White House inspection visiting press would have to make do. visiting press would have to make do. Besides logistics. Ghanaian officials bomb squad sweep of a public building are finding out that wherever policy and communications intersect, Mr. Clinton's

visit will be tightly scripted.
"We've been told that Clinton is comthese people, a lady, walking through the ing to change the way Americans think about Africa, from a continent of despair to a place of opportunity and hope," a senior Ghanaian official said. "I guess if you want the president of the United States to come, you've got to let him give his message."

said Wednesday that it was unqualified to rule on a petition to block the presence of Augusto Pinochet in the Senate. The unanimous decision ef-fectively quashed the petition by members of the lower house of Chile's legislature who said Mr. Pinochet, 82, could not take up his Senate seat because he was never

#### KEROSENE: Anatomy of a Price Riot

#### Continued from Page 1

olence since the beginning of the year,

"So far, the riots haven't been that big compared to riots in the past, which took able company, also owns a stake in place in the absence of an economic crisis, 's aid John Sidel, a lecturer in politics at the school of Oriental and don who has studied the history of anti-Chinese riots in Indonesia.

"Most manufacturers are Chinese, so people automatically think that the Chinese are responsible for the crisis," said Nurhawi, 53, who sells durian fruit in front of the shop that was attacked last month, "But I don't agree with the

On Feb. 2, people took to the streets traders who sell off of carts they roll through village streets had tripled their the villages, where kerosene is an esseutial item, used for buth cooking and

Even more important than the price said. ing Islamic cleric in Pasuruan, was the took part in the protest in Pasuruan, but Intelligent viewers have virtually way the news was delivered: without any about 30 people were initially detained, warning or explanation. People were angry not because of

they didn't understand. The price of kerosene went from 400 to 1,000 in one day. They thought that was irrational.

The price rise was apparently a fluke: The traders had misunderstood an announcement on television, that the govemment would soon raise the price of kerosene by 6 or 7 percent.

"The traders thought that meant an increase of 600 to 700 rupiah per liter," said Setio Darmo, a Chinese shop owner who lives on the outskirts of Pasurnan. "So they raised their prices."

When the villagers learned of the

price increase, they rushed into town carrying sickles and pelted the wholesale business of Mr. Darmo's neighbor, Wachid, an indigenous Indonesian who distributes such goods as kerosene and sugar. Rocks were thrown, breaking sevaral second-story windows.

"People asked the traders where they got the kerosene from and they told them from me," said Mr. Wachid, who said he had not increased his wholesale price at all. He added that the government would not have allowed him to raise the price of kerosene. "I would have been arrested if stayed in their house for five days with officials believed I raised prices," he

It is unclear exactly how many people and one person is still being held. Police in Pasuruan declined a request for an

#### No Paint for Hubby Without Wife's Note

LONDON - A shopkeeper, fed up with men returning paint because their wives hate the color they have bought, has decided to sell paint to husbands only if they bring a note from their wives.

"We will not supply husbands with colored paint without a signed note from their wives," said the new sign Allan Gordon has posted in his store in Alford, Scotland. 'We have had to change a lot of

paint for people in the past," Mr. Gordon told The Daily Mail. Since he put the notice up, he said, "Men are thinking a bit harder about what they buy."

half-dozen second-story windows were broken and have been covered with card-

To be sure, the riot left several shop-keepers on the street shaken. One family their thick metal shutters down.

cially among the young. A young man in a sarong stopped at Mr. Darmo's shop recently and addressed Mr. Darmo's wife: "You have phistication and wit," Christopher their suffering — Indonesians are used interview with the suspect.

Today, it takes discerning eyes to no-you want me to burn down your nancial Times, wrote this week.

Tasing the raised the price of cigarettes again. Do you want me to burn down your want me to burn down your shop?" raised the price of cigarettes agaiu. Do

the areas surrounding Pasuruan, espe-

# NATO: Chaotic Start to U.S. Senate Debate

#### Continued from Page 1

is about saying we thought we were going to have a debate on education." In the midst of it all, Senator John Warner, Republican of Virginia, hinted at dire consequences if the Senate approved NATO expansion. He raised the chilling prospect that enlarging the alliance could create a new Iron Curtain.

Soon enough, senators would begin orating, with appropriate gravity, the pros and cons of admitting new members many called the weightiest foreign policy matter in decades and one that is expected to cost American taxpayers \$400 million over the next 10 years.

But many of them smarted to find themselves suddenly on to world affairs. Senator Byron Dorgan, Democrat of North Dakota, said he would be happy eventually to debate NATO, but added: "I regret we're here. We should be debating education."

Those who favor expanding the al-liance had hoped to build support for their view with an orderly presentation and days of debate that would engage the Anti-Chinese feelings still run deep in public and the press. Instead, they abruptly began the debate Tuesday, after Senator Trent Lott, the Republican leader, failed to resolve a dispute over an edication bill. That dispute continued

Wednesday, and after much procedural hassling, NATO was back on the floor. just one more venue for partisan baggling, chided as his "long-winded" friend. .

which in the short run concerns pro-cedural advantage and in the long run concerns whether Republicans are presiding over a "do-nothing" Congress.

Mr. Lott said he was trying to do the right thing, even under pressure from his own party: "Right now, I have senators saying, 'Don't go to NATO enlargement! Delay it! Delay it until after the Easter recess! Delay it until June! Do it

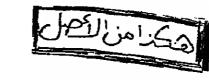
never!' I do not think that is right." At the end of the day, Mr. Lott said he would schedule the bulk of debate time to the military alliance—a decision that on Thursday for NATO expansion, which he supports. But he said the Senate would also take up the education bill.

The Senate's inability to alert the public that this major debate was under way, Mr. Biden warned, "lends an air of credibility to the unfair criticism that we have not adequately and fully and seriously taken into consideration the pros

and cons relating to expansion." Mr. Warner, who is leading the op-position to NATO expansion, bemoaned what he saw as a lack of interest in foreign policy, not just among the public

but within Congress.
Senator John Chafee, Republican of Rhode Island, took the floor to praise the University of Rhode Island Rams for their upset victory against Kansas and their advancing in the NCAA basketball

tournament The debate on NATO lasted less than four hours, much of that time consumed On Wednesday, NATO was reduced to by Mr. Biden, whom Mr. Warner gently.



# Carines de Concernation de Con Lucca: Puccini Sites and Sounds The state of the s Following the Composer's Tracks Inside the Walls and the control of th

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The Park Is

The same name

grand lan ender the state of th UCCA. Italy - On a Manual Requirement of the Common of the Comm halcyon evening last July, I found myself sitting at an outdoor café across from Lucca's icing-white church of San Michele, listening to "Che the Leading Gelida Manina" from "La Boheme" by Puccini.

The aria drifted across the piazza from the elegant Renaissance loggia comunale, one of several open-air concert sites of the Opera Theater of Lucca, a music fesfival and summer school Inraeli Hacker Sin Succea and the Conega Lucca and Praise and Cauling versity of Cincinnati.

I watched as the townsfolk pausing on bicycles, TEXT CALEM WISHES

gathered, pausing on bicycles, or on foot, to sing along softly to melodies they'd known since childhood, expressing an obvious devotion to Giacomo Puccini. who was born in 1858 in the shadow of San Michele. Even though nooe of his Printe Mere operas are set in Lucca, imagining him in his Tuscan hometown - as I found myself doing during my four-day visit - brings to mind notes from his "Vissi d'Arte" or "O Mio Bambino Caro." They become the melodic lines defining the city of his birth.

#### THIRD SEASON

Now in its third season, the festival takes place June 15-July 19 this year, Ter er auch, was queme - - - - - - - - police z Among the works to be performed are the Vivaldi oratorio "Juditha Triumphans," staged by Stephen Lawless;

Internal of the Cleric a striking oew interpretation by Malcolm Fraser, the festival's artistic director, and Allen Otte of Monteverdi's "Madrigals of Love and War"; a Don Giovanni not hy Mozart but by Gi-- Jenula, useppe Gazzaniga, directed by Patrick Young, and 'Procedura Penale' by Luciano Chailly, one of Italy's foremost contemporary composers.
The festival is the brainchild of

Lorenzo Malfatti, an American raised in Lucca and the creator of Festival Opera With the light that Barga, and Fraser, a Briton who started the Buxton Festival in England in 1979. .... the last When Fraser discovered that Lucca's 17th-century Teatro del Giglio, with its .... gilded interior and splendid royal box. was dark for part of the summer, he Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto, this .... only only event began as an Italian-American collaboration and attracts young singers Right eager to make their European debuts.

Lucca, encircled by magnificeot 16th- and 17th-century ramparts, is a 

· Puccini comes late in a long line of the city's triumphs. Lucca belonged to Real Allows the grifted Etruscans as early as 600 or Too B. C., and was later occupied by the Romans. Silk production made the city rich in the Middle Ages and it remained for the most part index and it remained for the most part independent until the invasion of Napoleon in 1799:

NDEED there is much to see in the city between the performances that make up the festival. Lucca's walls Article 21.0 are the most outstanding of its physical article are the most outstanding of its physical article are wide and flat on top, supporting a footpath shaded by plane and chestnut C2 (2:210) 52904

This path must be one of the most spectacular running tracks in all the selves take their passeggiata not along the walf, but on the Via Fillungo. This ancient Roman road was traversed by Julius Caesar when he came to confer with Pompey and Crassus about the administration of the Empire in 56

At its northern end is the Piazza del Antiteatro. The piazza's oval shape—all that is left of the Roman stadium that the case stood there—is ootlined by domestic buildings dating from the Middle Ages. Walking account the Middle

mestic buildings dating from the Middle Rese. Walking around the piazza from the outside, my husband, John, and I came upon scores of surviving ancient arches tacked in among the stones and bricks of later centuries

bricks of later ceoturies.

By happy coincidence, the feast day of Lucca's patron saint, San Paolino, falls on July 12, in the middle of the Opera Theater's performance series.

County of the feast-day celebration begins mid-



Puccini festival in Lucca runs June 15-July 19 this year.

morning on the Via San Paolino, which is draped for the occasion with ribbons and banners. Townspeople dressed in Renaissance costume march to the Piazza San Michele, where the church's exterior areade is adorned with rows of sconces all ahlaze. The procession ends at the grounds behind the Duomo, the site of a crossbow competition.

We watched from the ramparts directly above. Eveo with modern baircuts and smirking faces, the young Ifalians in the parade looked like the princely characters we'd seen the night before in the Opera Theater's production of "La Vita e la Morte di Gesualdo," a ooe-act opera by Fraser, the percussionist Allen Otte and the Roman actor Nicola Scorza, based on the life of a 17th-century madrigal composer. I recognized Offe in the crowd, riveted to his spot, listening to the incessant drums and videotaping the procession.

Near the other end of the Via Fillungo is the Piazza Napoleooe, where young people gather on weekend nights. Anchoring the piazza is a statue of Napoleoo's second wife, Marie Louise, though the square itself was a gift to his sister, Elisa Bonaparte. Napoleon gave the Duchy of Lucca to Elisa and her husband, Prince Felice Bacciochi. in 1805; later he presented them with the entire Grand Duchy of Tuscany.

I made a special trip to the Pinacoteca at the Villa Mansi on the Via Galli Tassi to see two portraits of Puccini. The most beautiful things there, however, are oot the pictures, but the tapestries and fabrics, yards and yards of liquid color, wrote this for The New York Times.

pooled on marriage beds and spilling over windows and

Puccini was born in a house oear San Michele, just off the Via di Poggio.

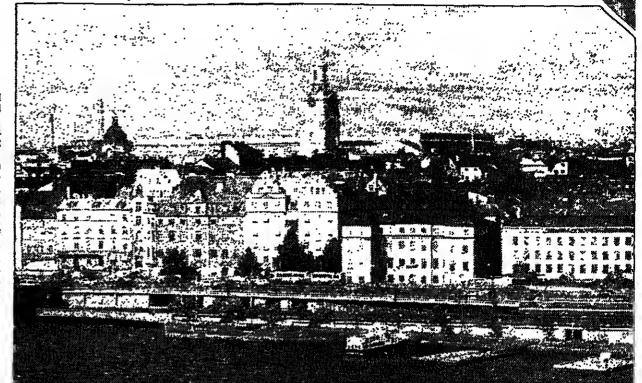
The café he frequented, in his day called the Caffe Caselli, is now the Antico Caffe di Simo, at 58 Via Fillungo. Its rich, dark mahogany interior. tables strewn with newspapers, is redolent of the turn of the century, when the composer and his friends - poets and other musicians gathered there. He is said to have chosen his hats and shirt collars at Samuele Martini at 10 Vinorio Veneto while sitting in a chair smoking Toscano cigars. The haberdashery continues to thrive, having celebrated its sesquicentennial in 1996.

La Casa Natale di Puccini is on the Piazza della Cittadella, a small, sunny piazza in the middle of which sits a statue of the composer smoking languidly. The house, on the other hand, is dark, hushed and tno earnest. It is filled with vitrines of letters and manuscripts. a glove here, one of Puccini's pianos there, as well as several bad paintings of family members and divas.

I preferred the Puccini home 12 miles (20 kilometers) away in the lovely hillside town of Celle dei Puccini, where the family (ived for generations. In this small museum is the bed in which Puccini was cooceived, and the awful religious painting of the Madonna, which the caretaker, Cavaliere Giocondo Frediani, says inspired some of the great man's works. Old recordings of "Madama Butterfly" and "La Boheme" play continuously, and sometimes Frediani stops to make you listeo or sings a particularly poignant line.

THE FIRST OPERA A copy of Puccini's first opera was found in this house, a one-act version of "Le Villi" (The Fairies) in which the handwritten score was so nearly illegible with scrawled rewrites and annotations that it failed to win the competition for which it was composed. In the 1999 festival, Fraser intends to stage this one-act version, which has been performed only once, in Milan in 1884.

Annasue McCleave Wilson, the restaurant critic for Cincinnan Magazine,



The Old Town and harbor of Europe's 1998 Capital of Culture: everything from jazz to a steamboat regatta.

# 1,020 Toasts to Stockholm

By Eric Sjogren

TOCKHOLM -- "What is culture?" the organizers of Stockholm 98, the celebration that marks the city's choice as the 1998 Enropean Capital of Culture, asked themselves. And they proceeded to arrange 1,020 events that might answer that question.

For its year as the European Capital of Culture, a designation given a different city each year by the European Union, the capital is adding these events to its regular cultural fare. They range from jazz and puppet festivals to a steamboat regatta.

In time for all this, the city has a new showcase for the arts: The Moderna Museet (Museum of Modern Art). It opened four weeks ago next to the former site and makes a virtue of discretioo. When you arrive at the former Modern Museum (oow a museum of architecture), all you see next to it is a passageway to the new museum and its 195,000 square feet (18,000 square meters) of floor space, blasted out of the rock.

The design by the Spanish architect

high-ceilinged cubes with pyramidal roofs crowned by lanterns. It fits well on Skeppsholmen, the old naval base turned museum island, which is connected to the mainland by a narrow bridge.

The inaugural exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art is "Wounds," through April 19. It has works by 70 artists from around the world, many of them painful, angry paintings and photographs, but also meditative works like the terracotta sculpture "Giovanna and the Mooo" by Liliana Moro of Italy. There will be a major Joan Miró retrospective May 9-Aug. 30. Admission is \$8 (at the rate of 7,4 kronor to the dollar). Tel: (46-8) 5195-5200; Web site; www.modernamuseet.se.

The five-story Kulturhuset (House of Culture) looks a bit like a reclining office tower, but inside are a theater, performance venues, exhibitions and restaurants. One floor is dedicated to activities for and by children. The fifth-floor gallery will display "Southern Reflections" uotil April 13 (admissioo abont \$2.50), an exhibition of modern Australian art. It will be followed by "Artgenda" May I-24, which will present Rafael Moneo consists of pavilion-like, works by 300 young filmmakers, dan-

cers, musicians, poets and fashion des signers from the 10 Baltic countries. The Kulturhuset is at 3 Sergels Torg; tel: (46-8) 5083-1400, or www.kuhurhuset.stockholm.se.

The opera season's surprise hit is "Marie Antoinette" at the Folkoperan (The People's Opera). The contemporary score by Daniel Bortz, a Swedish composer, has proved remarkably accessible; no doubt aided by the dramatic story of the Swedish aristocrat Axel von Fersen; who was the lover and would-be rescuer of the French queen. It runs until April 26. Tickets, \$31 to \$39: (46-8) 616-0750.

The Cullberg Ballet returns to Dansens Hus (the House of Dance), 12-14 Barnhusgatan, May 14 to 27, with new interpretations of "Giselle" and 'Sleeping Beauty'' (\$27), From March 31 to April 4, the house also presents six double bass players and six dancers performing "Transe Formation," by the French choreographer Philippe Blanchard (\$21); (46-8) 796-4910.

The centenary of Orrefors Glassworks is being celebrated in an exhibition May 19 to Oct. 11 at the National Museum of Art, Sodra Blasieholmskajen Admission: \$7.40 to \$8: (46-8) 666-4250.

The 17th- and 18th-century kiogs fenced in large tracts of land adjoining the city for their private pleasure. In 1995, this land became the Eco Park, the first national park in a metropolitan area, ootable for its many stands o centuries-old oak trees. It comprises Djurgardeo Island to the east and Haga Park oo the Brunnsviken bay, north of the city, and Fjaderholmama and Skeppsholmen islands.

T was in Haga Park that King Gustavus III huilt his delightful summer. pavilion in the Gustavian style, a sort of stripped-down version of Louis XV. Inside is a Hall of Mirrors - a stylish imitatioo of Versailles. Tours: June through August, except Monday, (\$5.25); (46-8) 402-6130.

Long before Stockholm existed, the Vikings had a major center, Birka, on Bjorko Island in Lake Malaren, west of the city. The dead were cremated, ac-

companied by their weapons and tools." More than 3,000 burial mounds circle the settlement, and many of them have yielded treasures that are on display at the Viking Museum on Bjorko, along with reconstructions of daily life 1,200 years ago. (The Viking heritage will literally be on parade Aug. 1 to 3, when 27 of the best reproductions of Viking

ships sail into Stockholm.) The museum is open daily 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. from May 1. Admission and a guided walk are included in the price. (\$27) of a boat trip from Stockholm. Boats leave from Stadshusbron, next to

Information about Cultural Year events is available on the Web at www.stockholm98.se.

living in Brussels, wrote this for The New York Times.

# A Graceful Getaway in the Hills of Castile

Al Goodman

IGUENZA, Spain — This medieval village is not oearly as well known abroad as Toledo, Segovia or Avila, all a quick trip from Madrid, but it has long been a favorite weekend escape for the capital's residents, who steal away by car or train for the one and a half hour journey into a remote, hilly section of Castile.

They come to tour the 12th-century cathedral and its artistic crypt in the town ceoter, and to sleep at Siguenza's noteworthy hotel, a state-run parador in the lushly restored castle.

But while other Madrid getaways long ago diversified their services for demanding tourists, Siguenza started that process only recently. It is now catching up, although it still has a shortage of fine dining, with just one attractively priced gourmet restaurant, which is not at the hotel.

In the past year, the torturous section of the two-lane highway near town was widened, and the tourist office moved into a restored 16th-century hermitage. An 11-room rural inn opened less than two years ago in a renovated 15thcentury flour mill, and borseback riding or bicycles rentals are available.

ROYAL ROOMS Yet the parador, on the promontory overlooking the red-tiled roofs of old Siguenza and the forested hills beyond, is reason enough to make a visit. Especially for travelers who secure one of the eight rooms outfitted with a king-sized bed noder a four-post

canopy. The parador's 73 regular guest rooms are quite respectable at 14,445 pesetas (\$95) a night, but the most endearing rooms, with the deep comfort canopy beds, make splurging fun at 18,725 pesetas.

Room 213 was perfect on a receot Friday night. The giant bed occupies just half of the spacious rectangular chamber, which also has a salon area equipped with a couch, table, three chairs, small writing desk, mini-bar refrigerator and satellite television.

Fresb country air is available on the room's private wooden balcony, accessed by traditional glass double doors adorned with wooden sbutters. The balcony has two more chairs and a table and overlooks the castle parapets and the ravine below. Even the bathroom is big, including twin wash basins.

The Siguenza castle commands the high, defensible ground that the Romans and later the Visigoths admired. The invading Moors expanded the fort-ress, and the Roman Catholic bishops who took charge after the 12th-century reconquest fashiooed the intricate castle that would become their headquarters.

Medieval Siguenza was a powerful outpost, controlling ocarby salt mines. Churches, palaces and graceful plazas were huilt on the hillside below the castle, some under the patronage of the religious figure Cardinal Mendoza. He is still well-known in Spain, partly because his name graces a premium brandy, served in Siguenza for about

photo in the hotel lobby attests, bul was rebuilt and opened as a parador in 1976. A \$2 million facelift a few years ago modernized the rooms and added a small gym and sauna. The large outdoor stone patio is a fine place to enjoy bar refreshments and the sumptuons former throne room, now the main salon, is often the setting for classical

But the parador's restaurant is oot the best value in town for a fine meal. A better bet is the Restaurante Calle Mayor, a five-minute walk downhill from the palace at No. 21 on a street that many locals call Calle Mayor, but which is officially listed as Calle de Los Martires, referring to the "martyrs" who died for Geoeral Franco's right-wing cause in the civil war.

music performances.

ET oo bellicose tension is evident at the restaurant, with its wood beams and exposed stone walls. The only dispute concerns whether to try the fish or meat, and which wine to select. A dinner for one of red peppers

smothered in moist cod, a thick sirloin with a pepper cream sauce, a bottle of Rioja Artadi 1995 red and dessert of rice-milk mousse with mango sauce totaled 4,870 pesetas, including bottled water, bread and tax.

The Siguenza brothers Sanuago and Manuel Canfran, who work in Madrid banks, opened the restaurant in 1991, spending \$190,000 to restore an aban-S6.50 a glass.

The castle was heavily damaged in the Spanish Civil War in 1936, as a doned building that had once been a school and a Civil Guard post. Many other town buildings have been fixed

up, and the most notable structures have blue-and-white tile plaques explaining their history. TALE OF THE CRYPT The jewel is the

cathedral and its crypt room, where an unusual piece of 15th-century funerary art depicts a reclining young nobleman, reading a book. Known as El Doncel, or squire, he worked for Queen Isabella and died fighting the Moors in Granada in 1486. The lad appears so pure, but a cathedral tour guide notes that El Doncel found time to father an out-of-wedlock daughter, who is huried here, too. Siguenza has 5,000 inhabitants and

if it seems too bustling, one could seek peace at the nearby rural inn, El Molino de Alcuneza. Juan Moreno and his wife, Antonia, paid about \$600,000 to refurbish the old flour mill, leaving the main grinding machine intact as a museum piece. The bocolic setting includes a section of the Henares River flowing beneath the house. A double cosis 10,700 pesetas and includes a contineotal breakfast.

Unfortunately, dinner at the Moreno's stylish restaurant was vastly overpriced, costing nearly as much as the Calle Mayor, yet with ordinary, unimaginative entrees.

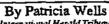
Parador de Siguenza, tel: (34-49) 390-100; fax (34-49) 391-364; Restaurante Calle Mayor: (34-49) 391-748, El Molino: (34-49) 391-501.

Al Goodman, who reports for The New York Times from Spain, wrote this for the International Herald Tribune.

City Hall, at 10 A.M. starting May 1; (46-8) 5605-1445.

Eric Sjogren, a Swedish journalist.

# A Rare Breed of Chef Serves Up Hints of Days Past



International Herald Tribune ARIS - If the walls at 5 Rue de Fleurus could talk,

they would speak volumes. Even before 1967 the setting for A. J. Liebling's gastronomic splurges - the

address had a sense of flair.

Gertrude Stein is said to have lived at some point in the tiny, two-story house in the courtyard now occupied by the Gra-

monds. Hemingway lived down the street.

One can chart the social and cultural changes that have overtaken the neighborhood since the day the couple opened their restaurant with five francs in the cash register and nothing more than a desire to serve simple, classic French fare. In the 1960s they often did two services at lunch, sending the overflow for a walk in the Laxembourg Gardens until places

were liberated. Before Francois Minerrand became president of France, he diner. The bourgeoisie of the neighborhood, including angust members of the Academie Française, politicians, bishops chervil vinaigrette; a commendable terrine of foie gras; plump from Rome. United Nations leaders and editors from the many scallops seared in butter and served on a bed of leeks; small publishing houses within a stone's throw of the Luxembourg tender baby leg of lamb with a fine sorrel sauce.

made this their cantine. In short, the sort of place Parisians like to call an "etablissement confidentiel."

Today, the lace tablecloths, the bouquets of dried flowers, the fish tank in the tiny glassed-in terrace, are all testameots to over, with a delected days loog past — another life, another style of cooking. And so roasted partialge. when Jean-Claude and Jeannine Gramond took over is the dearth of "chents fidèles." Publishing houses have this minuscule bistro that might well have served as moved to the suburbs, the two-cognac luoch is a relic of yesteryear and many of the intellectuals are now too old to make it out of their apartments to the Gramonds' domain. The younger generation would rather find nourishment at oeigh-

borhood cafés, Chef Gramond's cuisine is both earnest and admirable. He makes twice-weekly, middle-of-the-night treks to the Rungis market for produce, meat and fish. They have always split the chores, he cooking out of a compact kitchen in the back, she tending to the 20 or so spots in the dining room.

One of a rare breed of chef left in France today, Gramond refuses to alter the classic cuisine he learned more than 40 years ago in the hotel school in Toulouse. The menu, handwritten and mimeographed in purple ink on the machine they lived around the corper, on Rue Guynemer, and was a frequent bought three decades ago, is brief and to the point: You might find seasonal green asparagus from Provence bathed in a

Daily specials might include a lamb stew prepared with white beans, or haricots blancs, grown by Gramond on their farm in the Vosges. And come fall, his game specialties take over, with a delectable wild hare terrine; a civel de lièvre, and

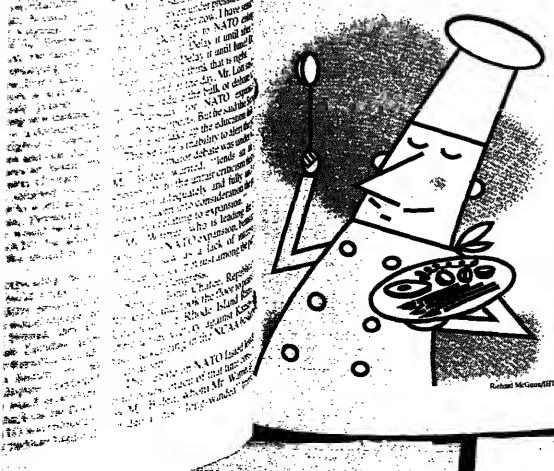
Three bulging cellars beneath the restaurant harbor treas-

ures from days past:
A hoard of sturdy Santenays from the Cote de Beaune. dating to 1978, all priced at less than 400 francs. A charming 1982 Carmes Brion goes for 389 francs. There is an exceptional, long maturing Chasse Spleen, with the 1976 priced at 430 francs; as well as a 1975 Pierbone at 268 francs.

HROUGHOUT the evening, the chef timidly enters the dining room in his clogs and spotless whites, awaiting each diner's opinion on his latest efforts. Later, come dessert time, he is back in his domain, and you hear the gentle, rhythm of egg whites being beaten to stiff peaks, ready for his famed souffle Grand Marnier.

So go, with a hunger for the fine classics of French gastronomy, and toast a chef who knows of what he cooks. Chez Gramond, 5 Rue de Fleurus, Paris 6; tel: 01-42-22-28-89. Closed Sunday. Credit card: Visa. A la carte, 280 francs (about \$45) a person without wine, including service; 350 to

400 francs with wine.



back roof is bopelessly difficult to

use. (And oddly, Land Rover saw fit

the United States, the world's

chunky tooking thing, even in the more conventional five-door "sta-

tion wagon" guise that was tested. It has a sporty, substantial look about it,

and is probably the classiest tooking

act in the small 4x4 class. Rivals

include the Suzuki Vitara, the Toyota

By Gavin Green

ENERAL George S. Patton was an early convert to the benefits of offroad vehicles. He cited the Jeep as one of the keys to his World War II successes in Europe.

Since then, four-wheel drive vehicles have racked np victories in the world's marketplaces. In America, sales of sports utility vehicles. continue to boom. It's still the fastest growing sector of the market, and the bigger and butcher the vehicle, the better.

 In Europe, where roads have improved a bit since Patton's day, and cars are judged more on the lengths of their pedigrees than the lengths of their hoods, the acceptance has been slower. But Europeans, too, ever more influenced by American culture, are starting to fall for the vehicles' charms.

Land Rover, the 4x4 wing of Britain's undistinguished Rover company, has been a major beneficiary. Its top-line Range Rover has sold strongly around the world, despite an appalling reputation for reliability. Its tower-market offering, the Discovery, has also been a strong seller. despite its excellence at spending time in the garage for repairs.



The Discovery's reliability is so bad that the boss of BMW, Bernd Pischetsrieder, saw fit to publicly rebuke Land Rover a few years back. The first new Rover since biggest 4x4 market.)

BMW's takeover, the Freelander, is The Freelander is a handsome. BMW's takeover, the Freelander, is now on sale. Much of the design was done pre-BMW but, unsurprisingly, given Pischetsrieder's tough words.

things appear to bave improved. There are still some signs of the engineering amateurism for which Rover was once renowned. On the three-door version — the sportier, RAV-4 and the Honda CRV (which more "lifestyle" model — the soft- Honda developed when it had a com- good on difficult country tracks, ul- of Car magazine.

more than a passing similarity to the atively poor ground clearance and Freelander in many ways).

probably the most car-like 4x4 so roads almost with sports car aban-None of its rivals offers quite the feedback and one or two larger 4x4s loved by the 4x4 brigade. -most notably, its own big brother, the Discovery — feel positively ponderous alongside it.

#### WHERE'S THE BEEF?

But it needs a better engine. The test Freelander had the 2.0-liter turbodiesel unit, which will probably be the biggest seller. It is a slow, agricultural thing, miles behind the latest generation German and not to engineer the Freelander for French diesel motors. It produces only 96bbp — feeble for a car that weighs more than 1,500 kilograms (3,330 pounds). Unsurprisingly, acceleration is leisurely. The engine is also very noisy. On a long run the Freelander chugs along respectably enough but the background din can be wearying. Go for the alternative 1.8-liter gasoline engine, even if the fuel bills will be worse.

mercial interest in Rover and bears timately let down only by its relthe lack of a low range of ratios in its On the road, the Freelander is four-wheel drive transmission.

The cabin is far roomier than far. You can fling it down winding most rivals, and you lose nothing in comfort compared with better sedans. Headroom and rear legroom don: its sharp steering is especially dans. Headroom and rear legroom impressive. The ride, too, is good. are especially generons, and you get

It is a likeable, handsome vehicle, and is sure to sell well. The biggest question mark, given the reputation of its maker, is its reliability. On first acquaintance, it promises much more than the Range Rover or the Discovery and, sooner or later, of course, BMW will sort out Rover's prob-lems. But if foolproof reliability is still a top priority, the sweeter-en-gined Honda CRV or Toyota RAV-4 are probably still better buys.

 Land Rover Freelander 2.0 tur-bodiesel. About \$30,000. Four-cylinder direct-injection turbodiesel engine: 1998cc, 96bhp at 4200rpm. Five-speed manual transmission, four-wheel drive. Top speed: 150 kph (95 mph). Acceleration 0-100 kpb in 15.8 seconds. Average fuel sumption 9.7 liters/100km. Next: the Opel Astra

Gavin Green is the editor in chief

#### MOVIE GUIDE



Gene Hackman appears as Jack Ames in "Twilight."

Directed by Robert Benton. U.S.

Aging stars, like old generals, may fade away, but they never lose their sparkle. Paul Newman, alas, comes mighty close in 'Twilight,' a creaky prune noir drowsily directed by Robert. Benton. The mystery not only examines the privileges of . celebrity and the big news that money corrupts, but also touches on prostate problems, impotence and sundry other tolls of time. Autumn can be a fair season, as Katharine Hepburn, Jessica Tandy, Hnme Cronyn and many other veterans have so eloquently and often demonstrated. Then again, the clichéd and awkward screenplay by Benton and cowriter Ricbard Russo doesn't offer Newman much of an opportunity to shine. He's stuck in a rueful mode, filled with regret and world-weariness in the role of Harry Ross, a retired sleuth reduced to sponging off old friends and former screen legends Jack and Catherine Ames (Gene Hackman and Susan County). reserves are need from Mon-their de governed by mile-rouses. The stives and sub-selections amortions of Mean reserves the Terrible and all recommendations. Sarandon). Though he has become part of the furniture, the Ameses' bratty daughter (Reese Witherspoon) delights in reminding him that he's not really a part of the family. To give the little stinker her due, she has noticed the mutual attraction between Harry and her glamorous mother. The plot finally lurches into gear when Harry, who runs errands for the couple in exchange for room, board and companionship, agrees to deliver a package for Jack. When he arrives at the seedy address, be is nearly killed by a bullet-riddled detective (E. Emmett Walsb) who finally croaks. When Harry discovers the dead man was investigating the disappearance of Catherine's first husband 20 years earlier, his old instincts stir and he is soon drawn down a familiar trail to murder, blackmail and betrayal. Along the way, he renews his relationship with his saucy former sweetheart (Stockard Channing) and a fellow former cop (James Garner). Channing is the liveliest, warmest, most entertaining performer in the bnnch. Even Newman seems to light up when be shares a scene with her. . (Rita Kempley, WP)

DANGEROUS BEAUTY

Directed by Marshall Herskovitz. U.S. Long, long ago, near the end of the 16th century, "Dangerous Beanty" would bave us believe, Venice was the world's undisputed capital of dull soft-core sex. In the rich golden light reflected off the city's canals, pnenmatic courtiers transported directly from a jeans ad by way of "Masterpiece Theater." would spend their afternoons making goo-goo eyes at one another from passing gondolas. Nights were whiled away swooning photogenically in each other's arms without perspiring or making expres-

sions that weren't shrewdly camera-ready. When not indulging their carnal appetites, these mythical deings would spend hours traipsing through the grounds of the Doge's palace improvising smutty verses that suggested a romance-novel variant of hardcore rap. The mistress of revels back then was Veronica Franco (Catherine McCormack), a copper-haired courtesan trained in the arts of seduction by her mother, Paola (Jacqueline Bisset). who shows her daughter how to dangle a spear of asparagus

provocatively in front of her McCormack and Sewell.

Veronica quickly ascends to become Venice's No. 1 sexual star. When the French king comes to visit and selects Veronica as his evening playmate, she becomes a national bero for satisfying his famously perverse tastes and gaining French military support against the Turks. Directed by Marshall

Herskovitz from Jeannine Dominy's screenplay adaptation of Margaret Rosenthal's biography "The Honest Courtesan," "Dangerous Beauty" looks like several million dollars. But no amount of gorgeous costumes and painterly chiaroscuro can endow this terminally silly film with even a patina of class. McCormack, familiar from "Braveheart," is pleasant to look at. But when practicing an early lesson in feigning expressions that range from disdain to rapture, she barely moves her features. Among the film's many randy characters, barning desire is registered by an almost imperceptible widening of the eyes. But, oh, those eyes! The gaping states cast of the second of the s eyes. But, oh, those eyes! The gaping stares cast by Rufus

SECRET DEFENSE Directed by Jacques Rivette. France. Sylvie (Sandrine Bonnaire) works in a research lab that has the

hued fluids into vials, on ber way, we are told, to a cure for cancer. Jacques Rivette, the master who can turn a bad dreast into a magical mystery tour, asks us to suspend disbelief from the opening. Bonnaire, who played Saint Joan in his previous "Jeanne la Pucelle," radiates a militant purity, and once again, she is off on a mission. Her brother Paul (Gregoire Colin) appears in the lab: he has a gun and is out to murder Walser (Jerzy Radziwilowicz), a business tycoon who presumably killed their father and took his place. A weak-kneed Hamlet, Paul is not up to the job. Sylvie confiscates the gun and interrupts her vital operations to stalk the tycoon and die up family secrets that tower as big as state secrets. On her path is a pretty secretary-spy (Laure Marsac) who throws a monkey wrench into the works. As written by Rivette with Pascal Bonitzer and Emmanuelle Cuau, every twist and turn of this mystery spooks and annoys. When it comes to pay-off time the pickings are slim. "Secret Defense" feels like a late Hitchcock, with Bonnaire stamping around the family plot wearing an expression of anguish and with much panache, but to no

hushed atmosphere of a courcb. She carefully pours rainbow-

(Joan Dupont, IHT) TORRENTE, EL BRAZO TONTO DE LA LEY

Directed by Santiago Segura. Spain. After so many encouraging Spanish films in recent years. filled with vision and creativity. Santiago Segura's first movie stands out as a huge disaster. Its many problems include poor taste, racist overtones, bathroom bumor and gratuitous violence. Segura should take full blame. Besides directing, he also wrote the script and was the lead actor. The plot has all the originality of cold leftovers. It borrows ideas freely from 500 filmmakers as Pedro Almodovar, but without coherence Segura plays a hard-drinking, renegade Madrid police detective who fights the bad guys, here clandestinely operating a drug-trafficking ring from a Chinese restaurant. Segura wants us to view his openly fascist cop character simply as a spoot. but the film fails as a satirical comedy because most of the jokes are not funny.

PENMARK

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bed'Art Moderne de la Ville Paris. 16: 01-53-57-40-00. zet Mondays. Continuing/ To Fit Col A survey of 20thbry an in Scandinavia, includine works of 20 young coniporary artists

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GERMANY

Side Guggenheim, tel: (30)
4134 Open daily. To June
1997/1998). The monustate of three paintings was sesoned for this exhibition candis a visual metaphor for e subjects of the work, along with preliminary are industry and conand the wars that salan century.

> Stadt Bonn, tel: (228) Shoslakovich's "Lady von Mzensk." Directed to Hilsdorf, conducted by On with Jane Cassel on 1. 3 and 16.

rie, tel: (711) 212-ed Mondays. Continu-Paul Gauguin is life on Tahiti where he how the strenge and with the reality of

Ekaterina Gordeeva & Rosalyn Sumners (World Class Ice Skaters)

(Norwegian Explorer, First Solo Amarctica)

(Holistic Healer, Author "Quantum Healing")

Ken Follett (Author "The Third Twin"):

Victor O'Reilly (Author "The Devil's Footprint")

Ehud Olmert (Mayor of Jerusalem)

Fay Weldon Novelist, Writer "The Life and Loves of a She-Devil")

The Dalai Lama (Spiritual Leader)

Tackie Stewart (Motor Racing Legend)

Linford Christie

(British Track Medallist)

Scott Adams (Author, Cartoonist "The Dilbert Principle")

General George Joulwan (Former NATO Supreme Allied Commander)

Dr Mahathir Mohamad (Malaysia's Prime Minister)

Lloyd Axworthy (Canadian Foreign Minister)

(Former East Germany's "HVA" Foreign Intelligence Chief)

Louis Farrakhan (Leader, Nation of Islam)

Daniel Tarschys (Secretary General, Council of Europe)

Nelson Mandela (President of South Africa) (Balloon Enthusias) & Record Holder)

Stephen Covey (Anthor "7 Habits of Highly Effective People")

(Musician and Composer)

Jeffery Archer Author, British Conservative MP)

Hillary Rodham Clinton (US First Lady)

Soren Jessen-Petersen (Director, UNHCR)

Frank Bruno (Former World Heavyweight Champion, British Boxer)

Ehud Barak

Cyril Ramaphosa

(Former Secretary General of the ANC)

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (Basketball Hall of Famer)

Vendela (Supermodel)

Norm Thagard (Former MIR US Astronaut)

Robin Cook

(British Foreign Secretary)

Jacques Santer (President, The European Commission)

(Actress, Representative, International Rescue Committee)

Andrew Morton (Author "Diana: Her True Story")

Catherine Bertini (Executive Director, World Health Emma Bonine (The EU Commissioner of Humanitarian Aid)

Alberto Fujimori (Peru's President)

Terry George (Film Director "Same Mother's Son" on IRA)

(UN Special Commissioner on Iraq)

(United Nations Secretary General)

(Head of Democratic Party of Hong Kong)

Salman Rushdie (Author "The Satanic Verses")

Max Moslev (President, International Auto Racing Federation)

Uri Geller (Paranormalist)

Maxim Vengerov (Classical Violinist)

Vijay Amritraj (Indian Tennis Star)

Inder Kumar Gujral (India's Prime Minister)

Mo Mowlam (British Northern Ireland Secretary)

Ismail Cem (Turkish Foreign Minister)

Alexander Downer

(Australia's Foreign Minister)

Wim Wenders (Film Director "The End of Violence".

Norman Augustine (Chairman, Lockheed Martin, Author)

Richard Butler (Chief UN Weapons Inspector for Iraq)

# THEV TALE THE ABOVIES. TOWNS THE BUESTION

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INTERNATIONAL



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神様を単のいち BEAUTY

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THE ARTS GUIDE



Rosenquist, wearing a recreation of his 1966 paper suit, in front of his work for the Deutsche Guggenheim.

Scottish National Portrait Gal-lery, tel: (131) 332-2268, open daily. To Aug. 2: "The Science of the Face." Brings togethar science

and an with computer-manipu-lated graphics and reproductions ol ponrelts by Kokoschka, Moffat, Raebum and Van Dyck.

Hayward Gallery, tel: (171) 928-3144, open daily. Continuing/To April 5: "Francie Bacon: The Human Body." Brings together paintings from 1945 to the mid-1980s that locus on the human figura. Bacon's central subject. Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (171) 300-8000, open daily. To June 14:

AUSTRIA

1) 5525-24-403, closed Mondays Continuing To April 14: "Bruegel: Tedition and Forschritt." Brings together 12 paintings by Pleter Bruegel the Elder and approxi-

Brusget the Elder and approxi-mately 20 works on paper and 200 paintings by his two sons. Palets Harrach, tel: (1) 525-24403, open delly. To Aug. 9: "Henry Moore." An exhibition of 85 scutp-turgs and 40 drawings by the British

sculptor (1898-1986), including tha Reclining Figures, the mother-and-child groups, the Natural Forms, fand the Seated Figures.

Musee d'Art Ancien, tel: (2) 508-3211, closed Mondeys. To June 28: "Rene Magritte." More than

200 paintings, gouaches, draw-ings and objects by the Belgian Surrealiel artist (1898-1967).

BELGIUM

BRITALN

"The Art of Holy Russia: Icons from Moscow, 1400-1660," Icons and manuscripts, on loan from Russian museums, illustrate the rise of Moscow as B political and ertistic center as it became free from Mongol rule to be governed by influ-ential czars. The stylaa and sub-jects reflect the embitions of Ivan the Great, Ivan the Temble and

Tate Gallery, tel: (171) 887-8000, open daily. Continuing/ To May 17: "Bonnard." Nearly 100 paintings by the French painter (1867-1947). His work includes landscapes, still lites, Interiors, the cel-ebrated bathroom pictures and

DENMARK

HUMLEBAEK Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, tel: 49-19-07-19, open daily. To Mey 10: "Sam Teylor-Wood." The British Britist (born 1967) lets her personal experience and social commitments permeate works that combine moving pictures and still photography.

17, closed Tuesdays. To June 29: "L'Art au Temps des Rols Maudits: Philippe Le Bei et Ses Fils, 1285 1328." Documents artistic creetiv ity in Paris and the provinces, during the final decades of the French royal house of the Capetians. Features illumineted manuscripts, religious sculptures, enamel work, stained plass and objects from

Chardins de Bagatelle, tel: 01-45-(01-20-10, open daily. To Aug. 2: (1) Les Lalanne a Bagatelle." More (1) Aug. 2: (2) More sculptures by the French couple are scattered Shroughout the gerdens, and inside intie Trianon and the Folie build-

Piligs. ∴Musee d'Art Moderne de la Ville ide Paris, tel: 01-53-67-40-00, inlosed Mondays. Continuing/ To May 17: "Lumiere du Monde, Lumiere du Ciel." A survey of 20thcentury art in Scandinavie, includ-ing the works of 20 young con-South temporary artists.

Opera Bastille, tel: 01-43-43-96-

96. Tchaikovsky'e "Eugene One-gin." Directed by Willy Decker, conducted by Gary Bertini with Thomas Hampson in the title role, and Susan Chilcott, March 21, 24,

Pavilion des Arts, tel: 01-42-33-62-50, closed Mondays. To May 17: "Paris — Hanoi — Saigon: 1/: "Paris — Hanoi — Saigori:
L'Aventure de l'Art Moderne eu
Viet Nam." A survey of Vietnam-17: "Paris - Hanoi ese painting since 1925. The works reflect the history of the country from the years of French rule over indochina until 1945, to the war years, and the past two decades when contemporary art was able to develop freely.

Manager was and to der Palais Rohan, tel: 03-88-52-50-O. closed Tuesdays. To Dec. 31: Egyptiennes de la Collection G. Schlumberger." An exploration of

tunerary rites and beliefs in Ancient

Egypt. Features stone sculptures, small wooden statues, bronze di-

SERMANY

Beauti Deutsche Guggenheim, tel: (30) 34-07-4134: open dally. To June 14: The Swimmer in the Econo-14: The Swimmer in the Econo-mist (1997/1998)." The monumental suite of three paintings was commissioned for this exhibition space and is a visual mataphor fo unrest. The subjects of the work, presented along with preliminary in the studies, are inclusive and consumers and the wars that shaped our century.

\*Bone Oper, der Stadt Bonn, tel: (228) 27-36-66: Stostakovich's "Lady Macbeth von Mzensk." Directed by Dietrich Hilsdorf, conducted by Wolfgarg Dif, with Jane Casselman as Katerina Ismallowa, March 24, 27, April 1, 3 and 16.

Stantingaleria, tel; (711) 212-4050, closed Mondays. Continuately To June 1: "Paul Gauguin: Tablis." Gauguin spent the last 10 years of his lile on Tablit where he discovered how the interpretation and discovered how the strange end

Palazzo Medici Riccardi, tel: (55) 27-601, closed Wednesdays. To May 20: "Robert Capa: Photographs." Approximataly 200 black-and-white photographs by the pho-tojournelist (1913-1954). Having been a war correspondent in the Spanish Civil War, the Sino-Japanese Wer and World Wartt, Capa wae one of tha tounders of Mag-num Photos with Cartlar-Bresson in 1947.Cepe died in Vietnam, during the French Indochine War.

Teatro alle Scala, tel: (36-2) 860-787 (for callers outside Italy). Donizetti's "Linda di Chamountx." A coproduction with the Wener Staatsoper, conducted by Roberto Abbedo, with Edita Gruberova, Giuseppe Sabbatini/Marcelo Alvarez. April 1, 3, 8, 11, 14, 15 end 17.

Patazzo Grasel, tel: (41) 522-1375, open daily. Continuing/ To June 28: "Picasso, 1917-1924. The Italian Voyage." Works created by Picasso following his 1917 trip to Roma, where he worked on decors, stage curtains end cos-turnes for the Ballets Russes.

JAPAN

Hera Museum, tel: (0279) 24-6585, closed Thursdeys. To June 21: "Nature! Nature!" The new eness of the fragility of the Earth of the 1970s is reflected in the way nature is depicted in ert. Features works by Richard Long, Hitoshi Nakamura and Robert Mapplethorpe, among others. Metropolitan Art Museum, let: (3) 3823-6921. Continuing/ To Merch "Masterpieces of British Art

From the Tata Gallary." Works by tinuing/ To Juna 1: "Diago Rivera seum, tel: (212) 423-3840, closed Hogarth, Gainsborough, Blake, et Frida Kahlo." A chronological Thursdays. Guggenheim Muturner, Bacon and Freud. exhibition of the works of the two

NETHERLANDS

Van Gogh Museum, tet: (20) 570-5200, open daily. Continuing/ To April 5: "Utagawa Kuniyoshi, 1798-1881: Prints and Peintings." Prints of haroes and chosts, and lendscapes that experiment with

Western influences.

Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, tel: (91) 420-39-44, closed Mondays. To May 31; "August Mecke, 1887-1914," Oil paintings end wa-tarcolors by the German Expressionist. A founder of the Blaua Re-iter group, Macke centered his attention on the expressive values ol pure colors and their relation with musical values. Hie last luminous creations followed his visit to Tunis in 1814, thet preceded hie death on the front during World War I.

SWITZERLAND

Fondation de l'Hermitage, tel:

(021) 320-50-71, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To June 1: "Polnti-isme: Sur les Traces de Seurat."
More than 100 Pointilliet paintings and drawings by more than 40 artists including Seurat, Signec, Jan Toorop and Picabla.

Fondation Pierra Glanadda, tel: (26) 22-39-78, open dally. Con-

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UNITED STATES

Brooklyn Museum of Art, tel: (718) 638-5000, closed Mondays end Tuesdays. To July 5: "Jewels of the Romanovs: Treasures of the Russian Imperial Court." Crown jewels, royel portraits, court gowns, military uniforms and jewel-encrusted objects spanning three centuries of the Romanov dynasty. The pieces are on loan from five major Russian museums, and the come come from five the State. and the come come from the State Diamond Fund, a collection established by Petar the Great in 1719. Solomon R. Guggenheim Mu-

Thursdays. Guggenheim Mu-seum SoHo, let. (212) 423-3840, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Continuing/ To May 24: "China: 5,000 Years." Several hundred artworks dating from 3000 B.C. to the modern era: from recently unaarthed archeaological dis les to large-scale stone Buddhist sculpture, from 12th- and 13th-

century landscapa painting to modern works in oil and woodb-

Metropolitan Museum of Art. tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. To May 12: "Femand Leger," Leger (1881-1955) chose modernity as his subject, and his ability to capture the epic quality of daily experience eemed him the repu-

Metropolitan. Opera, tel: (212) 362-6000. Verdi's "Stiffello." A proconducted by James Levine, with Placido Domingo in the title role. March 23, 27, 31, April 4 and 7. PHILADELPHIA

Museum of Art, tel: (215) 684-7860, closed Mondays. To May 17: "Self-Taught Artists of the 20th Century: An American Anthology." A range of paintings, sculptures, drewings and installations by 31 self-taught entists, including Horace Pippin. Morris Hirschfield and Grandma Moses. The axhibition will travel to Atlanta.

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculp-ture Garden, tel: (202) 357-2700, open daily. To June 21: "Directions — Kiki Smith: Night." Work in black gless, bronze and other materials by the American artist (born 1954) that evokes a noctumel environ-mant of birds, stare and other alemants of the natural world.

National Portrait Gallery, tel: (202) 357-2700, open dally. To Aug. 2: "Faces of Time: Seventy Five Years of Time Magazine Cov-ar Portraits," 7\$ pieces of original en commissioned by Tima Magazina for its cover, beginning

magazina for its cover, beginning with the first Man of the Yeer, Charles Lindbergh, published in January 1928. Faatures paintings, sculpture, works on paper and photographs of world leeders, artists and writers by such ertists as Andrew Wyeth. Roy Lichtentalia. stein, Rauschenberg end Al Hirschfeld.

**CLOSING SOON** 

March 22: "Gianni Versace." Metro-politan Museum of Art, New York. March 22: "Dorothea Lange." Hotel de Sully, Paris. March 22: "Angkor Wat: A Millennium of Krmer Art." Osaka Municipal Mu-seum of Art, Osaka, Japan. March 22: "Andy Warhol: After the Party." Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin. March 25: "Rembrandt: Druck-graphik." Wallraf-Richarts-Min-

seum, Cologna. March 26; "Das Zeltafter der Praraffaction: EinTraum von Liebe und Tod." Works by the Brit-Ish Symbolists, Haus der Kunst,

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RECORDINGS



A first-rate album based on Clint Eastwood's new film.

"MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL" (Malpaso): This is billed as music "from and inspired by" Clint Eastwood's latest motion picture of the same name. The credits do not say whether the director sings "Ac-ceot-tchuete the Positive" voice-off or voice-on or indeed at all in the movie. Unfortunately, from his performance here, on record his voice is off. Never mind, he owns the record company. Nevertheless, subtitled e "Johnny Mercer Songbook." this is by and large a first-rate soundrack. Principally a lyricist. Mercer was among the best of them. He was born in Savannah, Georgia, where the story takes place. The performers include k.d. lang ("Skylark"), Diana Krall ("Midnight Sun"), Rosemary Clooney ("Fools Rush In"), and Kevin Mahogany with Michael Brecker ("Laura"). The house planist is the discrete. tasteful Brad Mehldau ("Dream").

TRAY LIN' LIGHT" The Johnny Mercer Soogbook

(Verve): We seem to be in a Mercer revival. This compilation is good news for anybody with a craving for sensitive in-terpretations of literate popular music. "I'm Old Fashioned" (Margaret Whiting); "Midnight Suo" (Elle Fitzgerald); "A Kiss From You" (Billy Eckstine); "Too Marvelons for Words" (Oscar Petersoo, singing à la Nat King Cole); "Once Upon e Summertime" (Astrud Gilberto with Gil Evans), and the title song by Billie Holiday. Sixteen great tracks, most of them produced by Norman Granz, including Jack Teagarden

riding "On the Atchison, Topeka and the Santa Fe."

• BRAD MEHLDAU "The Art of the Trio, Volume Two"
(WB): The superb Mehldau, here live at the Village Vanguard. is subjective and sophisticated and he has been getting better and better known quickly. He's a master with a good brain that directs all 10 fingers just where they ought to go without redundancy or showing off. With his interpretations of songs like "Young and Foolish" and "Moon River," another Mercer lyric, Mehldau is in a class by himself.

Mike Zwerin/IHT

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\$104: Helsinki.

W UNITED KINGDOM

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\$104: Bologna, Naples • \$133: Florence, Milan • \$150: Rome • \$168: Rome • \$225: Rome (5). R IRELAND \$150: Dublin.

(II) MALTA \$133: Malta. (R) THE NETHERLANDS

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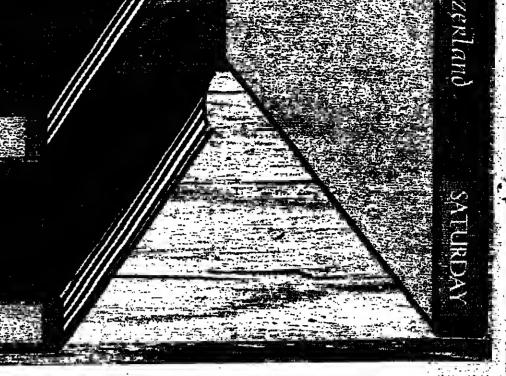


Holiday Inn

(1) supplement of OM 9, (2) supplement of FTS 2,500 in July and August, 13) supplement of FF 25 at Holiday Inn Nice and supplement of FF 450 in July and August at Holiday Inn Resort Nice-Pon St. Laurent, (4) opening soon, (5) supplement of UT 150,000. "Hotels in Italy are excluded from the Anastassa competition

Up to two adults and two children aged 12 and under sharing their parents' room are entitled to free breakfast, at the majority of hotels children also sat tree from the Kids' menu during lunch and dinner when diriking with their parents. Rates are valid at participating Holiday Hospitality hotels on Findays, Saturdays and Sundays from 1 March to 30 September 1998, Similar offers may also apply indi-week. Bookings are subject to the evalidatify of rooms aflocated to this offer Rates are payable in local currency. The dollar prices indicate the approximate equivalent of the fixed local rates and are for guidance only. Holiday Hospitality is not liable for fluctuations in exchange rates. The Anastast competition is void where prohibited or otherwise restricted by law. Full terms and conditions for both the Weekender Plus programme and the Anastasia competition are evaligable upon request via the toll-free telephone numbers listed below.

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#### BENELUX SCHOOLS ON-LINE

Interactive computer networks are part of the learning environment.

or some leading international schools, the standard schools worldwide, Inter- and intratools of the trade are becoming scarce commodities. networking will eventually enable The chalkboard, the textbook, the photocopier and even the library pass may go the way of the inimeograph machine as the classroom, the computer lab and the library gradually become one. International middle and high schools have orative projects possible. made way for the "Webby" learning environments. These are networks within schools within networks of schools.

"Historically, there's been a separation between the classroom and the computer lab, and the only expert computer users were the IT people," says Joanne Rich, admissions officer and sitemaster at the International School of Amsterdam (ISA). The separation has long been breached at this school. At ISA, they have brought computers into the Nations School in New York, adding, "It creates the need for classroom and the classroom into the computer. Soon nearly tolerance, which is more than a slogan." every class will have its own Web space, accessible from any other classroom or computer lab. On the class Web space, the teaching units and readings are available on-line. And all the teachers, who maintain the sites, are becoming IT people. When applying for a teaching job, "they should come with computer skills." Ms. Rich says.

#### Worldwide networks

Ubiquitous computing furnishes students with new skills, he and networking also is having an appreciable impact on their work. Since their papers are "published" on Web sites, where many of the sources also are available, students are more these days is not the MBA or tions. As at a medieval carcareful in their research. The outcome is less regurgitated and more multi-sourced. Early on, "they're learning to deal with in-company management program. As businesses actions are hold by network, but the nival, each person tends to Rotterdam School of Man-exhibit the archetypal behavior agement program. As businesses actions. As at a friedeval careful inval, each person tends to Rotterdam School of Man-exhibit the archetypal behavior most dreaded in real life simulation. In addition to

For international school students, the flood will not recede ahytime soon, as more connections are on the way. The pioneering Amsterdam school is no longer alone on the Web. The creation of learning spaces on the Web is part of a larger fieldsite project, where the goal is to interlink all international

> "INTERNATIONAL EQUICATION IN BENELUX" was produced in its entirety by the Advertising Department of the International Herald Tribune. WRITER: Richard Rogers in Amsterdam. ILLESTRATIONS: Karen A. Sheckler-Wilson

> > PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Bill Mahder.

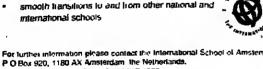
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Answering the criticism that such of the secondary school at the ISA and a local coordinator of the international schools association pilot project, says, We're not flattening but celebrating difference. Technology is making the dream of international education come true. He likens the virtual international school to the United

way, the question arises as to whether the computer would be-come the only medium of meaning crayons as well as the mouse."

The International School of Brussels, similar in orientation to the ISA, has taken a different approach obalization may produce uniformity. Tristian Stobie, head to the Internet. The fruits of computer studies classes can be rihe secondary school at the ISA and a local coordinator of viewed in a slick Web-based edition of The Crusader, the student newspaper.

> www.isa.nl (International School of Amsterdam) www.isb.be (International School of Brussels) www.ecis.org (European Council of International Schools) www.ibo.org (International Baccalaureate Organization)

### COMPANY-TAILORED PROGRAMS

Business school are teaming up with companies to provide targeted training.

schools are offering program. As businesses ac-cept the notion of life-long learning for life-long employment, companies that do not provide the learning end.

largest companies, particu- sonal sensitivity is involved. sel, associate dean of the larly those in transition, pay a "To make a career nowadays Erasmus Executive Develvisit to one of the two major a manager has to have cul- opment Program. A recent have paid substantial sums to text-specific competencies." leave the office and learn about their own foibles.

In its instruction, Nijendo so, they play games. Takthey confront individual employees with the suboptimal outcome of the petty winnerlab. a true-to-life role-play- Nedlloyd and a host of others

lower management posi-

They can't believe how ment, companies that do not they're behaving." says action learning centering on have their own schools are Koen Hazewinkel, the asso- actual company problems. looking to business schools to ciate dean of executive programs at Nijenrode. He the client is central to the In the Benelux region, the points out that more than per- course," says Han van Dis-

the rest of year.

players, Nijenrode or the Rot-terdam School of Manage-nitive skills," he says. In state that is endeavoring to ment. Both schools have long business, "there is a make tourism its main source lists of high-end clients who heightened interest in con-

At the in-company profer (once called "lecturing") rode tries to get to core of has been replaced by situcompany matters: power. To arion simulation, or case- tinationals in multiple cities based role-playing. The caing a page out of Robert reer-minded managers learn
Quinn's "Deep Change." best practice by first experiencing its converse. And it seems to be doing the trick. KLM, IBM. Oracle, ABNtakes-all mentality. In Power- AMRO, Solvay, Digital,

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hese days the "whispering corridors" of The Hague, once an allusion to the understated influence of its power brokers, may just as well refer to the subtle rise of its hospitality training. The hotel and restaurant industry has quietly taken notice of the quality of its hotel school graduates.
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the Hague)

See reader response coupon, Page 3.

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What has been your role, who President Suharto?

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Adidas Is I U.S. Turnaround

By John Tagliabue

Wilch - When Robert Le which tapped five years the was taking one to franchise in the global apart vears. Adidas was an to many parts of the

more example of a family my that stumbled when the firm Louis-Dreyfus sook sthe company had an \$8 million protect Susmess in the huge where Adidas carlier, had all but dried al was before Mr. Lanes dalled turnaround artist. awer. Now Adidas is min

any Goliath, is stumbling this closed out 1997 with rec come of \$255 million, 48 page than the year before, on rev silion in the process, it over 153 is the No. 3 athletic alson passing Reebok for the SI4 billion last senter to acquire Sa-SA the French sport-

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abu also in Asia. We're going in the right men now. Mr. Louis ris sud in an interview 2 not far from Addition emers in the Grenner aof Herzogenaurach. 🕍

is reversal of firms Wednesday, Nike and disappointing the carriags. Adidas a lad closed at a record

&A / Steve Hou

Seve Hanke, a professor of economia Johns Hopkins University in Ba

lalimore by Stephens Broening Imernational Herald-Tribune

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# FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1998

# Adidas Is Dropping the Other Shoes

In a U.S. Turnaround, It Overtakes Fila and Moves Up on Reebok

By John Tagliabue

MUNICH - When Robert Louis-Dreyfus was tapped five years ago to run Adidas AG, he was taking over the weakest franchise in the global sporting

For many years, Adidas was synonymous in many parts of the world with sneakers and athletic apparel. But as one more example of a family-run company that stumbled when the founding family died out, Adidas had been badly beaten by such agile new com-petitors as Nike and Reebok.

When Mr. Louis-Drevfus took over in early 1993, the company had just reported an \$82 million loss for 1992 after making an \$8 million profit the year earlier. Business in the huge American market, where Adidas established its three-striped brand as a trendy item a decade earlier, had all but dried up. But that was before Mr. Louis-Drey-

fus, a skilled turnaround artist, began his makeover. Now Adidas is sprinting back into contention even as Nike, the industry Goliath, is stumbling.

Adidas elosed out 1997 with record net income of \$255 million, 48 percent more than the year before, oo revenue of \$3.6 billion. In the process, it overtook Fila USA as the No. 3 athletic shoe supplier in the United States and has set its sights on passing Reebok for the No. 2 slot. Mr. Louis-Dreyfus even plunked

down \$1.4 billion last September to acquire Salomon SA, the French sporting goods giant known for Taylor Made golf clubs and Salomon skis.

Adidas-Salomon, as the merged company is called, is the world's second-largest sporting goods group, behind only Nike itself, which has been struggling with bloated inventory and faltering de-mand not only in the United States but also in Asia.

"We're going in the right direction now," Mr. Louis-Dreyfus sald in an interview bere, not far from Adidas headquarters in the German

town of Herzogenaurach.

The reversal of fortunes was particularly striking this

On Wednesday, Nike announced disappointing third-quarter earnings. Adidas stock had closed at a record (\$175); it closed Thursday at 314.80

Mr. Louis-Dreyfus has turned things around in several ways. He poured large amounts of money into establishing a cooler image for Adidas with young people tired of Nike's in-your-face style. To challenge Nike's design flam-boyance, Adidas took a contrary stance with its "feet you wear" concept, contending that built-up sneakers can be

And while holding on to its strength in soccer, Adidas gained ground in more popular sports in the United States by signing up such big-name athletes as Kobe Bryant of basketball's Los Angeles Lakers and Keyshawn Johnson of football's New York Jets in spon-

sorship deals. Nike, which is planning a counter-attack on Adidas's bome turf, says it is not too worried. Stefano Caroti, who took over last year as Nike's general manager for central Europe, accuses Adidas of building its recent success by using Nike's winning formulas.

"They're copying us, from our ads to our products," he said. "You put a swoosh at the end of their commercials, they're ours."

True, the 51-year-old Mr. Louis-Dreyfus still has a long way to go just to catch Nike's shadow. Nike may have its problems, but it continues to control 47 perceot of American sneaker sales,

**Nike Earnings Drop** 

BEAVERTON, Oregon - The swoosh worn around

BEAVERTON, Oregon — The swoosh worn around the world is wearing thin.

Nike Inc.'s earnings fell 69 percent in the third financial quarter, and the company plans a fourth-quarter ebarge of \$125 million to \$175 million to fire 1,600 workers, or 6.8 percent of its staff.

Earnings fell to \$73.1 million from \$237.1 million in the year-earlier period. Revenue fell 8 percent to \$2.22 billion from \$2.42 billion in the year-earlier period.

Nike warned in February that earnings would fall and that it planned an unspecified charge because of declining orders from Asian retailers and markdowns on shoes in the United States. Nike, which has warned about slowing revenue since September, said its goal is for sales in fiscal

revenue since September, said its goal is for sales in fiscal 1999 to equal those in fiscal 1998.

Nike Class B shares closed down \$2.3125 in New York on Thursday at \$43.8125. The company announced earnings Wednesday evening after the close of New York (NYT, Bloomberg) Stock Exchange trading.

high on Tuesday of 319 Deutsche marks compared with 15 percent for Reebok and just 6 percent for Adidas.

Yet what Mr. Louis-Dreyfus has already accomplished has won him high marks on both sides of the Atlantic. 'It is a great company and Robert is a fabulous manager,' said Faye Landes, senior footwear analyst at Salomoo Smith Barney in New York. (The securities from has no connection with Salomon SA.)

Investors clearly agree. After Mr. Louis-Dreyfus took Adidas public in 1996, selling 40 percent of its equity on the Frankfurt exchange, the initial price was 68 DM, a fraction of what it trades for now.

Once he assimilates the Salomon purchase, Mr. Louis-Dreyfus plans to sell Adidas shares directly on Wall Street or as American depositary receipts, per-

haps as early as next year.

Mr. Louis-Dreyfus is a total break in style as well as substance for Adidas. A Frenchman in a company with deep German roots, he lives in Switzerland and has assembled an international team to run Adidas, including Christian Tourres, a French executive often described as his alter ego, and an Australian banker, Dean Hawkins, whom he made chief financial officer. "Diversity brings creativity." be said.

Fast talking and cigar smoking, be is an avid skier and soccer fan who once personally bought a French team, Olympique Marseille, to keep it from falling into Nike's hands; at

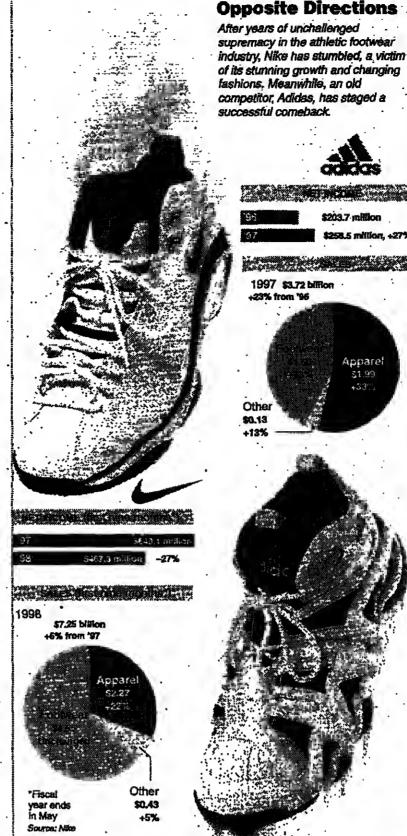
work, he eschews collars and ties for sweatshirts and jeans. A graduate of the Harvard Business School, he is equally comfortable in English and his native French.

In 1993, a group of French banks and insurance companies was saddled with Adidas, which the maverick French financier and politician, Bernard Tapie, had acquired in 1990.

Although Adidas, whose founder, Adolf Dassler, is generally considered the father of athletic footwear, had been making athletic shoes as early as the 1920s, it was on

the ropes.
Mr. Dassler's son and heir.
Horst, died in 1989 at 51, and the family had sold out to Mr. Tapie. Management was dis-oriented, and Nike and Rec-

See ADIDAS, Page 19



# Berlusconi Weighs Sale To Murdoch

Italian May Offer Shares In His Television Group

MILAN - The head of News Corp., Rupert Murdoch, has met Silvio Ber-lusconi here and the two media giants are in the closing stages of negotiations over a sale of shares in the Italian television group Mediaset SpA.

Sources at Mediaset confirmed

Thursday that Mr. Murdoch and Mr. Berlusconi had already had discussions and planned to hold further meetings. "A deal is probably coming very soon, but I can't give any details," an executive close to the negotiations said.

Mr. Berlnsconi, a former prime minister and leader of Italy's center-right opposition, controls Fininvest, which owns 50.6 percent of Mediaset. He had consistently denied that he would sell Mediaset to News Corp., but the sale of all or part of his holding in Fininvest is, oow considered imminent.

If Mr. Berlosconi were to sell a significant stake in his commercial television empire to Mr. Murdoch, that could provide an effective response to critics who for years have alleged that he has a conflict of interest because of his dual role in politics and the media.

Mediaset controls three private namemaser controls three private national television channels: Canal 5. Italia 1 and Rete 4. The operating concessions on all three expire in April. Fininvest expects that the licenses will be extended, but the government could impose some conditions on Mediaset.

The latest available figures in direct.

The latest available figures indicate that Mediaset had sales in the first quarter of last year of 1.78 trillion lire (\$1 billion), which was 7.4 percent more than the figure for the first quarter of 1996, and had increased pretax profit by 17.7 percent to 585 billion lire.

Mr. Murdoch might acquire all of Mediaset, but such a deal would be "ex-tremely expensive" and the price might

tremely expensive" and the price might amount to \$8.5 billion, the newspaper Corriere della Sera suggested.

The cost to Mr. Murdoch of buying 25 percent of Mediaset, on the basis of the price of Mediaset shares on the stock market here of oearly 13,000 lire (\$7.40) would be about \$1.7 billion.

Mediaset shares fell 140 lire to 12 340 Thursday after surging in pecent 12,340 Thursday after surging in recent days on speculation of a News Corpdeal. (AFP, AFX, Bloomberg, IHT),

Q & A / Steve Hanke

# **Voice of Suharto's Guru**

Steve Hanke, o professor of economics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, serves as o special counselor to President Suharto of Indonesio. In the past, Mr. Hanke has advised the governments of Argentina, Estonia, Lithuania, Yugoslavio and Bulgario on currency reform, particularly on the functioning of currency boards in lieu of central banks, o project Indonesia is now considering. Mr. Hanke was interviewed in Boltimore by Stephens Broening for the International Herald-Tribune.

Q. What has been your role as an adviser to President Suharto?

A. When the president first invited me to come to Indonesia in early February and appointed me as his special counselor, he gave me a diagnosis of the situation as he saw it. The rupiah had lost and the currency started to collapse and obout 80 percent of its value in eight went into free-fall. Then, on Jan. 15, there months. He said this meant that the was an amended IMF program that was private sector of the economy was bank-rupt, because they have a lot of external debt, and to pay this debt they have to

So the president concluded that the IMF have more and more rupiah if the rupiah is depreciating in value. So we wondered: Is there anything we is depreciating in value.

The second point was that he ancicipated a lot of inflation coming into the economy because of the devalued currency, and the combination of a bankrupt private sector with a lot of people all the old IMF program, and in addition thrown out of work, with no income and the currency board, where you would fix rising prices, particularly food prices, the rupiah's exchange rate to the U.S.

**Cross Rates** 

was going to be deadly cocktail where you're going to end up literally with blood oo the streets, boat people, you name it. Social chaos, in short.

Q. Was a currency board one of the

recommendations you made?

A. A currency board was one of the initial recommendations. During the initial meeting we concluded that a currency board was the only way to go. But then when I started doing a thorough evaluation, we came to the conclusion that we wanted to keep the IMF in the picture, so we'd keep all the IMF program, and would add other components that would the IMF program.

make the IMF program work.

By itself, the IMF program had been a complete failure. The Indonesians put the IMF program in; they started actually floating the rupiah on Aug. 14 of last year



Steve Hanke: Currency board fix.

dollar, you would back the rupiah 100 percent by U.S. dollar reserves and you would have free convertibility between the rupiah and the U.S. dollar. And then the second add-on would be

a recapitalization and restructuring of the banking system where we would extend the currency board principle even into the commercial banking system by requiring that all ehecking deposits, all demand deposits, be covered 100 percent with U.S. dollar reserves.

The third component is a rescheduling of debt, because this flood of debt, of

See HANKE, Page 19

# Starring at Cebit: the Humble Phone

By Victoria Shannon

ANNOVER - Cobit may be the world's largest annual display of computer gadgetry, but advances in the telephone are the source of much of the trade sbow's wizardry this

The big question, as ever at such feasts of future technology, is bow many of them will be real by the time next year's
Cebit rolls around.
On display or in development are high-speed videophones (Siemens and Philips

Semiconductor), portable answering machines (Motorola), cell phones with socalled smart cards (Gem-Plus), Internet phones (Alcatel and Philips), consumer satellite phones (MSC Europe) and phones that are computers (Nokia), personal organizers (Alcatel) or

watches (Swatch). Patrick Liot, for one, insists

Mr. Liot, president of Alcatel Al-sthom SA's professional and consumer

division, based in Paris, believes the combination of Europe's digital cello-lar-phone network, called GSM, and the telecommunications deregulation that has been under way since Jan. 1 make for a ripe market for many products.



Motorola's Iridium, the first hand-held satellite phone.

it's not all "vaporware," the techie euphemism for promised products that
never make it to market.

"The telephone is the third medium."
Mr. Llot said in an interview at Cebit on
Thursday. "After the TV and the PC, the phone is coming into its own."

His company's Internet screeo phone,

produced under a partnership with Sharp Electronics Corp., is in prototype now and due for retail sale by the end of the

Telecom Ltd., or Nortel Much sooner, Alcatel is releasing next month its One Touch Com, a GSM cell phone with address book, appointment calendar, e-mail connection and link to a personal computer. A slim, light-weight machine, it employs a stylus for its on-screen keyboard and keypad. It will cost about \$600. Nokia Oy, based in Fin-

land, used the timing of Cebitto apgrade its owo multi-purpose phone computer. The 9110 Communicator has its own mini-keyboard and can browse the Internet. The updated model, with more memory and other enhancements, is expected to be avail-able in the third quarter of the year. Another competitor, Samsung Telecommunications, plans to release a phone-PC in a few months that uses an abridged version of the Windows operating system, Windows CE.

Of course, a lot of phone use today is for moving data.

not making conversation. Jozef Cormu-president of Alcatel, forecast that by 2001, the amount of data moving over phone lines would exceed the amount of voice conversations. By 2000, he added, mobile-phone traffic would outpace

Interpet traffic alone is growing at the year. It faces competition from a raft of big names like Philips Electronics NV, some countries — with the total number Samsung Electronics Co. and Northern of users doubling each year, be said.

#### **CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES**

## A PART | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 | 1987 Other Dollar Values Pers 8.599 1.7715 7.6055 38.19 3.46 167.10 6.093 3.7505 Per\$
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Reno Warning To Lockheed

WASHINGTON - Lock beed Martin Corp. and Northrop Grumman Corp. have been given several more days to answer the government's objections to their combination or will face a federal lawsuit to block it, Attorney General Janet Reno

said Thursday.
"We have given everybody concerned some more time to try to address the issues," Ms. Reno said, "And I expect that this will happen within the next several days."

Lockheed said it was prepared to fight the government

in court to complete its proposed \$12 billion acquisition of Northrop Grumman. (AP, Bloomberg)

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AMSTERDAM DEPOSITARY COMPANY N.Y. Amsterdam, March 16, 1998

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# INTERMARKET FUND

Notice is hereby given that the Extraordinary General Meeting of shareholders shall be held at the registered office on March 31, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering the following agends:

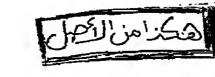
69, route d'Esch, L-1470 LUXEMBOURG

To hear the report of the auditor appointed at the previous Meeting.

To give discharge to the Liquidator, Anditors to liquidation and directors who had been in place. To decide to close the liquidation and distribute the remaining net assets in each.

To decide to keep the records of INTERMARKET FUND for a term of five years at the offices of Banque internationale à Lexembourg S.A. Shareholders are advised that at this Meeting, no quorum is required and the decision will be passed by a simple majority of the shares represented at the meeting. in order to attend the meeting of INTERMARKET FUND, the owners of bearer shares will have to deposit their shares five clear days before the Meeting at the registered office of the Conserver.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.



#### Very briefly:

 3Com Corp. said it would fire 380 workers at two Chicagoarea plants and replace a top Illinois executive, as the company struggled with product lines acquired in its 1997 purchase of US Robotics Corp.

 ConAgra Inc. said its third-quarter earnings fell 4.5 percent, in line with estimates, because profit from its meat and poultry unit fell amid higher competition and lower exports; the maker of Healthy Choice meals said profit from operations fell to \$138.6 million from \$145.1 million a year ago.

 Shell Exploration & Production Co., a division of Royal Dutch/Shell Group, said that it would spend nearly \$1 hillion to develop three oil and gas discoveries in the deep water of the

• KLM Royal Dutch Airlines NV is facing a \$2.8 hillion lawsuit in the United States filed by employees in its North American cargo unit; the suit concerns a man who, according to the claim, subjected the employees to "discriminatory and derogatory verbal abuse," said a KLM spokesman.

• Motorola Inc. said it would invest another \$90 million in NetSpeak Corp., raising its stake to 34.5 percent, as part of an agreement to use NetSpeak's technology to transmit data over wireless networks.

· Chase Manhattan Corp. received permission to expand its operations in Venezuela and to open a bank there.

• Rodman & Renshaw Capital Group Inc. and its brokerage unit, Rodman & Renshaw Inc., said they had filed for hankruptcy in a New York court.

· Chiron Corp. has sued Smith Kline Beecham PLC, claiming its hepatitis-B vaccine violates a Chiron U.S. patent on the world's first genetically engineered vaccine.

• International Business Machines Corp. cut prices on its computers with Intel Corp.'s Pentium II chips by as much as 20 percent, with the base model now starting at just over \$1,000; the move came a day after Compaq Computer Corp. unveiled price cuts and special promotions to lure buyers for the glut of machines it has in inventory.

Blumberg, Reuters

### Yen Falls Anew Amid Signs of Stalling in Tokyo

NEW YORK - The dollar rose against the yen for a second consecurive day Thursday amid expectations that Japan would not act rapidly to revive its flagging economy.

The dollar rose to 130.67 yen in New York trading, from 130.07 yen Wednesday. The U.S. currency has risen about 4 percent against the yen this month.

'If they don't come up with a early in April, the dollar is going to

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

135 yen immediately," said Earl Johnson, foreign-exchange economist at the Chicago office of Bank of Montreal.

The dollar also rose against the Deutsche mark after an unexpected decline in husiness confidence exacerbated concern that Germany's economy would not soon recover

The dollar rose to 1.8323 DM in late trading from 1.8264 DM at the close Wednesday. Against other major currencies, the dollar rose to 6.1410 French francs from 6.1215 francs, and to 1.4965 Swiss francs from 1.4913. The pound fell to \$1.6665 from \$1.6715

The Bundesbank left interest rates unchanged at Thursday's bimonthly council meeting, and analysts said the German economy was not growing quickly enough to prompt the central bank to raise interest rates in months ahead, analysts said. "The dollar's going to grind a little higher, given interest rate expectations, said Paul Meggyesi, currency economist at Deutsche Mergan Grenfell.

# Inflation Figures Push Stocks to a Record Melman A

straight session after a government report suggested that inflation poses little threat to the bull market.

Telephone and banking shares gained on merger speculation and national settlement of health litigthe tame inflation outlook.

"The inflation environment continues to be benign, and that's positive news for stocks," said George Mairs, president of Mairs & Power Inc., a fund management company.

The Labor Department said the package by the end of the month or consumer price index rose 0.1 percent last month. The core rate, which excludes the volatile food and energy components, rose 0.3 percent. The data were in line with expectations, reassuring investors that U.S. rates will be left unchanged.

The Dow Jones Industrial Avrage rose 27.65 points, to 3,803.05, led by J. P. Morgan. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 4.22 points, to 1,089.74, as Bell Atlantic led phone shares higher. The Nasdaq composite index rose 11.69 to 1,799.97.

J. P. Morgan has gained about 9 percent this week amid speculation the banking company could be sold. The price of the benchmark 30year Treasury bond rose 6/32 in 103 8/32, pushing the yield down to 5.89

percent from 5.90 percent. Shares of Philip Morris, RJR Nahisco Holdings and other U.S. tobacco companies fell amid speculation that an Indiana jury may decide against the industry in a secondhand-smoke lawsuit.

The six-person jury in Delaware County, Indiana, is deliberating whether to award as much as \$6.4 hillion in punitive damages to the estate of Mildred Wiley. B nonsmoker who died of lung cancer. the steepest in seven years. The price

NEW YORK—Major U.S. stock bacco company shareholders, exudexes rose to records for the fourth indexes rose to records for the fourth ccutives and others for its possible partner to enter the U.S. phone mareffect on a proposed \$368.5 billion

#### U.S. STOCKS

"Predicting jury outcomes is a perilous thing to do," said Marc Cohen of Goldman, Sachs. Shares in Sunbeam plunged after

the maker of home appliances said first-quarter sales may fall below analysts' estimates.

Telephone companies gained after the finance director of British

ket Although he said BT was not interested in huying one of the regional telephone companies known as the Baby Bells, their stocks rose.

Oil companies extended their result in disappointing earnings.

Shares in Cablevision jumped on gains amid a rebound in crude prices. Crude rose amid speculation that a meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries later this month could result in cut-

to increase its stake in network soft-ware developer NetSpeak Corp., about selling." (AP. Bloomberg)

Rockwell International shares fell sharply after the maker of semiconductors used in computer modems warned that price cuts would

reports that the cable-TV company - which also owns the New York petter family members, with Knicks basketball team and the New York Rangers ice hockey team had entered into talks with George hacks in supply from the group.

Stock in Motorola rose after the

Steinbrenner about buying the New company agreed to pay \$90 million York Yankees. Mr. Stembrenner

# Consumer Prices Rise Just 0.1%

WASHINGTON — Plummeting energy prices held U.S. consumer inflation to a tiny 0.1 percent in February, the government said Thursday, and a report on jobless claims indicated the labor market

was still expanding at steady pace.
The barely noticeable February
advance in the Consumer Price Index followed no change in January, the first month in four years without an increase, the Labor Department

After sinking in 1997 to 1.7 percent, the lowest rate since the fall in oil prices in 1986, inflation is running at an annual rate of 0.4 percent so far this year.

The Labor Department said energy prices fell 2.2 percent in February after a 2.4 percent decline in January,

Thursday's 4 P.M. Close

The 300 most traded stocks of the day.

up to the closing on Wall Street.

percent in the last five months.

Fuel oil, natural gas and electricity prices all fell steeply, too. Economists attribute the declines to reduced demand from financially trouhled Asian countries, unusually mild weather and the OPEC countries'

decision to maintain production. "For consumers, it's much like getting a tax cut," said Mark Zandi, an economist with Regional Financial Associates in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Price increases outside of the volhave accelerated a bit this year. Those prices rose 0.3 percent in February, the most in 10 months. For the year so far, they are advancing at a territories reported an increase in

**AMEX** 

of gasoline dropped 3.4 percent at the pump last month and has fallen 10.8 Labor Department said first-time Labor Department said first-time. jobless claims rose by 9,000, to a seasonally adjusted 308,000 in the week ended March 14. That was roughly in line with analysts' ex-

> erage for johless claims fell to 308,000 from 308,250 the previous week, the Labor Department reported. That was the lowest level since the week ended Feb. 14, when the

The Labor Department also said that the total number of people on: atile food and energy components the unemployment rolls decreased by 30,000, to 2.156 million, in the week ended March 7.

At the same time, 26 states or

2.8 percent annual rate, compared new johless claims, and 27 said new with a 32-year low of 2.2 percent for claims had fallen. (AP, Bloomberg):

HENS — Greece said Thursday, trouble she: the ailing state rain. g (llympic Airways unless de

ASTAT Edelman

The raider and frastrate

french lexury assets, as he

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gguable Profits

Credit Lyonnais

PARIS — Credit Lycanada and a profit of 1.057 balls and frances \$172.7 million) and

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#### RLD STOCK

usday, March 19

High Low Close Pred

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U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

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Dividends

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Capital World Bd
Cascade Natural
Eselco Inc
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Fed Ball Bricg
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STOCK SPLIT REVERSE STOCK SPLIT

U.S. Stock Tables Explained

Sales figures are unofficial. Yearly highs and lows reflect the previous 52 weeks plus the current week, but not the latest trading day. Where a split or stock dividend amounting to 35 percent or more has been pold, the years high-low range and dividend are shown for the new stocks only. Unless atherwise noted, rates of dividends are annual disbonsements based on the latest declaration.

a dividend also extra (s), b - cannual rate of dividend plus stock dividend. c "Maddating advidend, ac PE exceeds 99 ctd - called, d - new yearly law, dd - loss in the lost 12 months, e dividend declared or pold in proceding 12 months, f - cannual rate, increased on last declaration, g - dividend in Canadian funds, subject to 15% non-residence fax, i - dividend declared arter split-up or stock dividend, j - dividend poid this year, amitted, deterred, or ad action taken at latest dividend meeting, k - dividend poid this year, amitted, deterred, or an action taken at latest dividend meeting, k - dividend became on mist declaration. A new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begans with the start of trading in - new issue in the past 52 weeks. The high-low range begans with the start of trading in - cosed-end mutual fund. r - dividend declarad or paid in preceding 12 months, plus shall in preceding 12 months, but shall in preceding 12 months, estimated cash value on ac-dividend or ex-distribution date. It is not the bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies wit when fishibated with the Bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies. w - when fishibated when issued we - with variour's x - ex-dividend or ex-distribution date. It is such that the bankruptcy Act, or securities assumed by such companies.

The less volatile four-week av-

four-week average was 303,500.

talks with the Miami-based company since its Pan American Airways Corp. and Pan American World Airways Inc. filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Feh. 26. The fin-ancier Carl Icahn withdrew a \$43 million offer on March 16. A \$10 million offer from Wilhur Ross, a partner in Rothschild Inc., fell through last mouth.

Mr. Mandaric, who was born in Yugoslavia and moved to

#### **Mandaric Ends Pan Am Talks**

MIAMI — Pan Am Corp, said Thursday that the Silicon Valley investor Milan Mandaric had ended discussions about investing in the bankrupt airline.

Mr. Mandaric is the third potential investor to pull out of

Pan Am said it was still considering financing offers but was also thinking about scaling down operations and be-coming a charter airline. Jeff Kriendler, a company spokesman, declined to elaborate.

the United States in the 1960s, owns MM Holdings In-ternational. He also owns First Start International Inc., a sports-marketing company, and he has invested in soccer teams in the United States and Europe.

#### INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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May 98 N.T. N.T. 98.370 -0.035 2.775
San 98 96.275 96.300 96.370 -0.005 277.731
San 98 96.295 96.164 96.180 -0.080 362.002
Dec 99 96.590 95.980 -0.070 377.391
May 99 95.900 95.800 95.800 -0.070 377.391
San 99 97.900 95.800 95.200 -0.070 150.973
San 99 97.900 95.450 95.450 -0.060 13.9848
May 100 95.460 95.380 95.460 -0.060 13.9848
May 100 95.460 95.380 95.460 -0.060 13.9848
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# Ks to a Record Edelman Makes Fourth Run at Hotel Chain Begin of the offer, Mr. ted the main shareholders of State of the offer, Mr. ted t

former corporate raider and frustrated buyer of French luxury assets, is hop-

ing the fourth time's the charm.

The U.S. investor has set aside \$12 million to buy a stake in Compagnie Financiere Taittinger on the market in a fresh bid to win its holding in Societe du Louvre, people who know of the plan said Thursday.

The offer is aimed at persuading

The one is Taitinger family members, who control Societe du Louvre, to sell.
Clande Taittinger, chairman of Taitinger SA, another company that inger SA, another company that owns 54 percent of Louvre's voting owns 54 percent o rights, has three times rejected Mr. be raised, they added. Taittinger said

Edelman's offer for Louvre, which owns Baccarat crystal and prestige botels such as Le Crillon in Paris. "He's already tried the direct ap-

proach," said Jonathan Goble, an analyst at Credit Suisse First Boston. "Having made little progress, he may go to the top of the holding tree and try his hand there."

Mr. Edelman, who made his name in the 1980s as a profiteer from hostile takeovers and now runs investment funds, offered through brokers 2,100 French francs (\$343) a share for 9.5 percent of Taittinger, the tinger SA, another company that sources said. His offer, equal to Taittinger's share price Tuesday, could

Mr. Edelman, 58, aiready owns 5

francs, Mr. Edelman's offer price.

Edelman would not comment.

reent of Societe dn Louvre's voting shares and between 30 percent and 35 percent of nonvoting shares. In November, he sought again to take control of the company by offering 350 francs per common share, up from 310 francs in July and 275

francs in May.

FRANKFURT - Bayerische

that its net profit surged 53 percent

last year, and announced it would

sell new shares to raise 2.18 billion

Dentsche marks (\$1.19 billion) in

ing its own brand of cars owns Bri-

tain's Rover Group Ltd. and man-

ufactures aircraft engines, also said

it would raise its 1997 dividend

from 15 DM to 20 DM per ordinary

share, and from 16 DM to 21 DM per

BMW, which in addition to mak-

**BMW** to Issue New Shares

Following Surge in Profit

Motoren Werke AG said Thursday billion DM from 820 million DM.

it was not aware of the offer, Mr. ted the main shareholders of Societe du Louvre to take defensive mea-Only about 5 percent of Com- sures, although Mr. Edelman has pagnie Financiere Taittinger's said the Taittinger family is not shares trade publicly. They have not traded since Tuesday, when 63 shares changed hands at 2,100 illies last week agreed that Peugeot's

Fonciere Financiere et de Participation would not sell its stake in Societe du Louvre for four years unless the Taitinger family approves. The Peugeot family also said it wanted to increase its stake from 3 percent of Societe du Louvre's voting rights to as much as 10 percent.

On Thursday, Louvre's shares rose 5.9 francs, to 355 francs; Taittinger Mr. Edelman's hids have promp- SA rose 15 francs, to 3,815 francs.

Net profit for 1997 rose to 1.26

"BMW must be very confident to

make such a big dividend payout," said Lothar Lubinetski, an analyst at

BMW shares, temporarily sus-

Although the Asian financial

pended after the earnings announce-

ment, rose 25 DM to close at 1,925

crisis could have hurt the company's

second-half results, analysts said it

appeared that profit in the last six

mooths of the year was belped by the

strong dollar, which swelled income

sales last year climbed to 60.13 bil-

lion DM from 52.27 DM and that

production climbed to 1.19 million

BMW will oot publish a break-

Analysts said they were surprised

at BMW's decisioo to increase cap-

ital, but said the decision probably

reflected a need to finance devel-

opment of oew products and a desire

BMW, considered a favorite in

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237.39 330.79 202.59 330.59
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imits from 1.14 million in 1996.

The company reported earlier that

Enskilda Securities.

from sales abroad.

# **Hits France Telecom Stock**

**Profit Report** 

PARIS — France Telecom SA's shares fell 9 percent Thursday as investors took profits a day after the company said its 1997 earnings suffered from costs linked in developing its mobile-phone and in-ternational networks.

"The company's been hit worse than I thought by the costs of investment in mobile phones, and also its expansion overseas in Ivory Coast, Slovakia and Romania," said Richard Jones, analyst at Paribas Capital Markets.

The stock fell 30.6 francs (\$5), to 324. On Wednesday, the shares hit a

record high of 354.60 francs "Profit-takers have set in and

some hot money has moved out," said James Ross, analyst at ABN. Amro Hoare Govett in London. On Wednesday, France Telecom

announced a record pet income for 1997, as profit rose to 14.9 billion francs, including a one-time charge of 1.1 hillion francs to cover the costs of the company's initial public offering. The company had a profit of 2.1 billion francs a year earlier.

But at the same time, the company unveiled an unexpected 13

percent drop in operating profit.
In addition, France Telecom said its overall earnings outlook was flat for 1998 because of cuts in call rates. leading analysts to cut their recommendations for the stock.

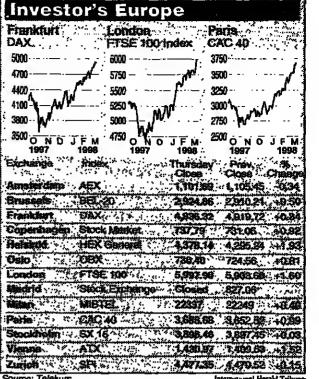
France Telecom's result included 3 billioo franc loss from its Glob-One vennire with Deutsche Telekom AG and Sprint Corp. of the United States, the company said. The venture has suffered from falling prices worldwide amid competition from companies such as

#### AT&T Corp. (Bloomberg, Reuters) ■ Alcatel's 1997 Profit Surges

Alcatel Alsthom SA reported Thursday a surge in 1997 oet profit and said earnings would continue to grow in 1998 despite a restructuring plan, Reoters reported Thursday,

The relecommunications-equipment maker and engineering company reported a profit of 4.7 billion francs, op from 2.7 billion in 1996 and slightly more than the 4.6 billion franc preliminary profit it announced in January.

In June, Alcatel and GEC PLC will float 52 percent of their GEC Alsthom joint venture in Paris, London and New York.



#### Very briefly:

· West German business confidence fell in February, a sign that more executives were concerned Southeast Asia's downturn could damp Germany's recovery, the Ifo research institute reported in a survey of husiness executives.

 Poland's economic committee approved a liberalized currency law that would make the zloty convertible for current-

 Gucci Group NV's fourth-quarter profit fell 20 percent, to \$42.1 million, as Asia's economic and currency problems led to an expected decline in sales.

 AXA SA, the world's second-largest insurer, said second-half profit almost quadrupled, to 3.7 billion francs (\$605.3 million), arnid gains in foreign operations and a turnaround at Union des Assurances de Paris, the insurer it acquired last year.

· Lafarge SA, the world's higgest building-materials producer, will sell 3.2 billioo francs in new shares to help finance its expansion in emerging markets.

• Henkel KGaA, a German maker of detergents, said 1997 net income more than doubled, to 1.13 billion Deutsche marks (\$620.5 million), at the upper end of expectations, after it sold its stake in Degussa AG and increased foreign sales.

· Aegon NV, a Dutch insurer, said fourth-quarter profit rose a greater-than-expected 51 percent, to 707 million guilders (\$343.5 million), powered by the purchase of Providian Corp. and by favorable exchange rates.

· Skoda Auto AS, the Czech unit of Volkswagen AG, said its 1997 profit rose more than sevenfold, to 1.17 billion koruna (\$34.6 million), as sales increased at home and abroad.

 Great Universal Stores PLC has been named in a lawsuit brought by American Business Information Inc., which said the British company's planned \$831 million acquisition of Metromaii Corp., a U.S. retailer, was not being conducted through a fair auction. Bloomberg, Reuters

#### **Arguable Profits** At Credit Lyonnais

PARIS - Credit Lyonnais reported a profit of 1.057 billion French francs (\$172.7 million) for 1997, but the European Commission said the bank's results included and the second French state aid of more than 3 billion francs that the commission had not approved and was therefore

illegal. The bank had a profit of just 202 million francs in 1996.

Credit Lyonnais also said Thursday it was setting aside provisions of 3 billioo francs to cover general credit risks in Asia, where



Jean Peyrelevade, president it is one of the most exposed of Credit Lyonnais, speak-French banks ing on Thursday in Paris.

# **Greece Warns Airline to Cut Costs or Fold**

ATHENS - Greece said Thursday it would sbot the ailing state-run airline Olympic Airways unless the the operating cost," be said. company found ways to slash costs by 250 billioo drachmas (\$774.7 million) over five years.

"Olympic's management and 50 billion drachmas a year, over the reasons. next five years, or it will close down," Transport Minister Tassos very last chance to survive."

He said Olympic's 1997 deficit drachmas, attributed to pay increases to company employees last year.

Thursday, March 19

Prices in local currencies.

47.40 44.80 47.16

25.59 26.59 26.70

43.43 64.91 46.70

421 423

197.10 197.30 192.80

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Amsterdam

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Olympic's deficit will reach 60 hillion drachmas by 2002 and it will be new cost-saving plan would inforced to sell its planes just to cover clude; minimum salary increases or down of its individual operating

Mr. Mandelis said a 1994 recovery plan for Olympic approved hy crews; canceling of perquisites, like the European Union has been free tickets, for company employ-overturned due to union action, misworkers must agree oo ways to save takes by the management and other ment during the summer.

Greece has paid about 620 billion drachmas since 1994 to write off Mandelis said. "This is Olympic's Olympic's debt in line with the EUapproved plan, which aimed to turn the company around through early was estimated at about 6.5 billion retirements and fewer flights after 20 years of losses. "We will not ask the company employees last year.

'If we continue this way, then for Olympic,' Mr. Mandelis said.

Government officials said the a salary freeze; slashing overtime units until its annual news conferpay; longer working hours for flying ence on March 31, but analysts said crews; canceling of perquisites, like profit came largely from BMW

to undergo reforms to meet Greece's commitment to public-sector savings after the drachma's entry to the to take advantage of a share price EU exchange-rate mechanism last that has climbed 48 percent this week. Greece devalued the drachma year. by 14 percent last week to enter the mechanism. It also made a commitment to cut state deficits, reduce Motor Cars, said the capital increase inflation and increase productivity.

Olympic is the first state company

bidding to take over Rolls-Royce was not directly linked to its bid.

brand cars.

London

13.10 12.50 13.10 13.10 49.51 40 40.50 40.30 38 29.50 38 37.50 37.70 27.35 37.50 37.50 48.20 40.50 66.50 65 100 142.40 145 144.40 40 38.70 40 59.50 207 200 207 207 20 34 22 25.50 24 74.50 74 74.40 77.50 10.40 12.80 4.90 8.50 3.08 13.80 13.80 4.20 5.00 4.20 9.75 6.35 3.60

The stock market in Mad-rid was closed Thursday for a holiday.

30	Manila ·	PSE inten: 2288.3 Previous: 2281.9			
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Composite index: \$21.73
Previous: 218.04

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CBA
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CSR
Fosters Brew
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NYSE

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17 Month High Low Stock

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Thursday's 4 P.M. Close The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day. lationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewi

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Our Hotels

If you've seen one, well,

you've seen just one.

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Mice access in CITIC's re-

Wit Plummets lardine Fleming

AG KONG — Jardine Fleming and Sala and Thursday that its net sala and Thursday that its net sala and Thursday that its net sala and Sala seconomic crisis took sala social social

tola concern was the decline and roncern was the decrease the management. Fund management fund management fund management for the managem Profit center, said Alasdair, managing director of Jardine

board by the severe, really a board by the severe, really be found by the severe, really by the severe severe

was due mainly to the effect of crisis on its investment and the absence of investment which company said with a given the severity of the company said with a given the severity of the said jardine retained its in the long-term prospering

the long-term prosperity (Reuters, Bloomberg)

Continued on Page 22

# No Lifelines for Failing Firms, Says Kim

By Don Kirk International Herald Tribune

Jung confronted one of Soun Korea's most perplexing economic issues Thursday: Why do the conglomerates that are basically bankrupt never seem to die or even fade speed up the clearance process," said Lee Jee Woo of the Korea Economic Research Institute, an adjunct SEOUL -- President Kim Dae

not allowed to go out of business," Mr. Kim said during a briefing by his industry and energy minister, tains, "In Korea, however, the Park Tae Young. "The nation is mood is a little different. People being smothered," he said, by the worry about the social impact." continual demands of the "troubleare dangerously short of cash.

its \$60 billion loan package for rescuing the South Korean economy.

The reality, however, is that most

CITIC Pacific

Wrestles With

**Interest Costs** 

Bloomberg News
HONG KONG — CITIC Pacific Ltd.,
the flagship of China's biggest overseas
investment company, said Thursday that

a spending spree last year sent its interest expenses soaring, leading to disappoint-

ing net profit for the year.

CITIC — which paid 16.25 billion
Hong Kong dollars (\$2.1 billion) a year
ago for 20 percent of Hong Kong's

biggest electricity company, China Light & Power Co. — said interest

expenses rose 21-fold, to 889 million

dollars, up 8 percent from the year earli-

er, but well below the 20 percent in-crease that had been expected by many

That cut 1997 net profit to 7.38 billion

Shares in CITIC rose 1.4 percent, to 29.75 dollars, less than the 3 percent rise in the benchmark Hang Seng index.

CITIC's announcement was a re-

minder that many of China's investment

interest rates rocketing.
Still, CITIC will be better off than

most because its investment in China

Light & Power made strategic sense,

llars to snap up power plants in China.

The CITIC chairman, Larry Yung,

said Mr. Thompson, who recommends

said Wednesday that the two companies

were progressing toward joint acqui-sitions that could increase revenoe. He

declined to he more specific, and sug-

gested that CITIC could cut its debt by

**Profit Plummets** 

At Jardine Fleming

HONG KONG - Jardine Fleming

Holdings Ltd. said Thursday that its net

profit tumbled 83 percent to \$14 million

last year as Asia's economic crisis took

Hong Kong's biggest stock brokerage, a joint venture between the Robert Flem-ing Group of London and Jardine Math-

eson Holdings Ltd., said assets under

management dropped by a fifth, to \$17

million. The group had total net assets of

Jardine Fleming, like many other se-

treme vulatility in Asian markets has

continued into 1998 and this will create

a difficult operating environment for

Of particular concern was the decline

in assets under management. Fund management has traditionally been the firm's main profit center, said Alasdair

Morrison, managing director of Jardine

'Jardine Fleming was affected across the board by the severe, really

unnrecedented downturn in Asian mar-

kets," Mr. Morrison said. "Compet-

trively, I think Jardine Fleming is in very

good shape in the markets in which it

operates. But clearly it will be affected

nounced an 8 percent rise in net profit to

\$325 million for 1997, but said under-

million, after nonrecurring items were

uf the Asian crisis on its investment-

banking, engineering and construction

businesses, and the absence of invest-

Keswiek, said that given the severity of

Jardine Matheson's chairman, Henry

the economic dowoturn in Asia. it

would be unrealistic to expect an early

recovery. But he said Jardine retained its

confidence in the long-term prosperity

of the region. (Reuters, Bloomberg)

The drop was due mainly to the effect

Jardine Matheson, meanwhile, an-

by the overall levels of turnover."

considered for both years.

meut gains, the company said.

financial-services businesses," company said.

Matheson.

\$469 million, down from \$481 million.

its toll on regional stock markets.

investors buy the stock.

dollars as a result.

of the companies that are on the Thursday, that "troubled banks and cess under which the court replaced brink of bankruptcy, unable to pay their bills and at the mercy of the the earliest possible date," but he who recently resigned to join Mr. courts, are still in operation, struggling to survive and often quite confident that real failure is still only a

five of the chaebol while another

with recently resigned to John Mr.

Kim's cabinet. Now, however, the
group, whose debts are at least six
fident that real failure is still only a

five of the chaebol while another

with recently resigned to John Mr.

The fear of chaebol failure transmakers" for loans from banks that lates into a cumbersome system, based on the Japanese model, in Mr. Kim's demand for early liquidation of the failing conglomerates, called *chaebol*, at least ten of court receivership. The court may appoint a new chairman and perhaps them ranked among the company's appoint a new chairman and perhaps 30 largest groups, fits in with the some other executives but then takes International Monetary Fund's reits time deciding whether to accept quirement for the elimination of the application for receivership, ungotiate its loans with its creditor banks. money-losing companies as part of der which a company gets to rene-

five are receiving low-interest "cooperative loans.

Kia Group, including its flagship Kia Motors, which Mr. Kim cited as one of the chaebol that needed to be of the Federation of Korean Indus- acted upon right away, appears to sell 600,000 this year despite a 50 tries, a kind of club of chaebol chief- likely to go into receivership when a court rules next week on its application filed six months ago. The ternative would be court-ordered liquidation.

'It is pretty obvious to us that the court will allow a reorganization program for Kia," said Yoo Seong Min at the Korea Development In-stitute, a government financed think tank. "Once the court approves the application for rescheduling, then Kia has to talk to the banks, and then the court has to approve their debt

der which a company gets to reocgotiste its loans with its creditor banks.

Mr. Kim may state, as he did rescheduling plan.

Tescheduling plan.

Kia, South Korea's eighth-largest chaebol, had initially resisted having to apply for receivership, a pro-

group, whose debts are at least six times its equity, hopes for a court-ordered receivership as a reprieve.

"Receivership can provide a lifeline," said Jun Sang Jin, a spokes-man for Kia Motors, which sold 697.384 vehicles last year and hopes percent drop in domestic sales. Ask anybody whether the court will grant receivership, and 99 out of 100 will say it will."

One precedent may be the court's decision Thursday to grant receivership to Halla Engineering & Heavy Industries Ltd., a shipbuilding company that applied for a lifeline last autumn before producing a single ship. The court rejected an application from a sister company, Halla Merchant Marine, but Halla Group, Korea's 12th largest chaebol, appears likely to survive despite a group debt-equity ratio of 20 to 1, much of it the result of construction

# Major Thai Bank to Issue Shares

By Thomas Crampton International Herald Tribuse

BANGKOK - Thailand's largest commercial bank, Bangkok Bank, said Thursday it would issue new shares to raise capital, becoming the first Thai bank to do so since Asia's economic crisis began

eight months ago.

A tightly held family bank, Bangkok Bank had been extremely reluctant to raise capital and only agreed to do so after prompting from the central bank, which is urging all Thai financial institutions to increase provisions for possible bad loans.

The decision to sell individual shares will allow

Bangkok Bank to raise money without selling controlling stakes to strategic foreign partners, a move that some debt-laden Thai financial insti-

tutions have been forced to make. 'In light of the impact of the currency devaluation and slowdown in the economy this year, we believe it is prudent for the bank to raise additional capital to strengthen our financial position," said the bank's executive chairman, Chairi Sophonpanich. By selling individual shares instead of seeking a single foreign partner, the Sophonpanich family will retain more control of the recapitalized bank and allow discreet participation of Taiwanese in-

vestors and bankers, analysts said.

Reports in local oewspapers have suggested that the Thai-Chinese family that uwns the bank chose a public offering as a means to obscure investment from Taiwan for fear of angering mainland China.

A delegation of investors from Taiwan is cur-

rently visiting Bangkok and on Wednesday Bangkok Bank disclosed it had sold 59 percent of a key lending unit to China Development Corp., the investment arm of Taiwan's ruling Nationalist

For the recapitalization, Bangkok Bank will make an initial offering of 400 million oew shares, roughly equal to 30 percent of the bank's enlarged capital, and keep an option to sell more shares in case of oversubscription.

At the current market price of 12I baht (\$3.03) per share, the offering would be worth about \$1.2 billion.

### **Jakarta Calls IMF Talks** Constructive

JAKARTA - Indonesian officials said Thursday that talks with a visiting team from the International Monetary Fund were "constructive," but Vice President B.J. Habibie gave mixed signals on Jakarta's commitment to economic reforms.

"The meeting was very constructive," said Radius Prawito, a presidential adviser who is in charge of overseeing talks on the restructuring of Indonesia's corporate debt.

Mr. Radius's comments on the talks with the IMF team about a 50point program of economic reforms meant to be adopted in return for a \$40 billion bailout package were overshadowed by apparent waffling on Jakarta's commitment by Mr. Habibie during an official visit to

improve substantially if the country abides by all 50 points," Mr. Habibie was quoted by a Japanese Foreign Ministry official as saying.

Bot Mr. Habibie, a protégé of President Suharto who was recently given an expanded portfolio to represent the president on international matters, later told Japan's most powerful business group that Jakarta could complete most of the points but that agriculture would be a problem. "We are already implementing

some of the points, but the whole thing cannot be done in a week or a month," a spokesman for the Federation of Economic Organizations quoted Mr. Habibie as saying.

A senior IMF team broke into five

roups to discuss programs ranging from banking reform and monetary policy to ways of dealing with crip-

pling corporate foreign debt.
Indonesia regards the strengthening of the rupiah as the key issue, and Ginandjar Kartasasmita, the coordinating minister for the economy, said both sides had agreed this would

be part of the review process.

Mr. Suharto, 76, has repeatedly made commitments to carrying out



#### **Very briefly:**

 Seven "second-tier" Japanese brokerages said they would be reporting heavy losses for the year ending this month. Four of the firms — Cosmo Securities Co., Yamatane Securities Co., Wako Securities Co. and Okasan Securities Co.—gave the loss estimates after earlier profit or break-even predictions. Dai-Ichi Securities Co. and Kankaku Securities Co. said their losses would be greater than initially projected, and New Japan Securities Co. predicted a slight improvement from its earlier estimate of a hefty loss.

Daiwa Securities Co. said it would book a loss of 39.9 billion yen (\$307 million) on financial assistance for its property management unit, Daiwa Tochi Taternono.

 Associates First Capital Corp., an affiliate of Ford Motor Co., said it would pay 80 billion yen for 90 percent of DIC Finance, a financial unit of Dalei Inc., Japan's largest supermarket operator.

South Korea's Fair Trade Commission asked financial institutions to relieve companies of excessive debt guarantee obligations to promote economic restructuring.

 Hyundai Electronics Industries Co., a leading South Korean semiconductor maker, said it may leave the personal computer business, which only accounts for 5 percent of total

 Commerce Asset-Holding Bhd. and RHB Capital Bhd., the reform program he signed with both of Malaysia, have agreed to call off talks to merge their the IMF on Jan. 15. (Reuters, AFP) banks, a Commerce Asset official said.

Reuters, Bloomberg

in my report.

### New Chinese Leader Faces companies in Hong Kong are paying the price for a spate of acquisitions last year just before the territory's defense of its currency's peg to the U.S. dollar sent A Delicate Balancing Act

By Philip Bowring Special to the Herald Tribune

said Steven Thompson, head of research at Nikko Securities Co. (Asia) Ltd.
"They can make this investment pay HONG KONG - China's new prime minister, Zhu Rongji, has been receivoff and I believe they will" by using China Light's cash reserves of 18 billion ing a foreign press almost as adulatory as that once reserved for Deng and Mao

in the domestic media. Mr. Zhu, a relentless realist, is nonetheless aware that the expectations placed upon him are oot matched by the

tools at his disposal.

Mr. Zhu, like his well-informed and open-minded advisers, knows what

#### ECONOMIC SCENE

selling noncore assets, possibly residential and industrial properties in Hong uceds to be done. But the dilemma remains: How can the central government While he urged investors to focus on a 16 percent increase in CITIC's reimpose market discipline on a system that by and large has benefited from the curring income last year, he conceded that CITIC faces "a difficult year" in erosion of central power?

Mr. Zhu's most immediate task is to revive economie growth. The actual rate of China's growth remains debatable, but the continued downward growth trend is everywhere in such figures as those for industrial production, exports, prices, foreign investment and so on. Even using official data, the growth rate is probably uo more than 6.5 percent at

What can be done about it? Monetary stimulus has tended to inflate the price of assets and oot boost actual economie

A strong pickup in investments in fixed assets — the tangible property used to run businesses — is seen as the main goal. Mainland economists think that a 12 to 15 percent rise is needed if overall growth is to reach its target 8

However, Beijing's role is an indirect one. Fixed-asset investment by the cen-tral government is a tiny portion of the curities firms doing business in Asia, has been hit hard by slumping stock, bond and currency markets. "The extotal, and according to the budget will fall slightly. Much will rest on the ability of provincial and local authorities to find their own resources, and on banks to shift from funding inventory accumulation and state-enterprise losses to financing new projects.

In other words, two assumptions lie behind the expectation of growth. First, that profits of state enterprises will grow and finance oew investments. Second, that banks will not be too tight-fisted even though they are also under pressure from Beijing to improve their loan quality and credit assessments.

This will be a delicate balancing act. Scope for manufacturing investment is limited by the huge overcapacity that exists in many sectors, and the unwillingness of local anthorities to worsen onemployment by closing unprofitable factories.

Some infrastructure building such as toll roads may be an attractive investment, but returns on many projects are long-term and uncertain. Bank managers, under pressure to be responsible for bad loans, may prefer to be cautious. Recent recapitalization of state banks was a cosmetic reshuffle of state and central bank balance sheets, which will have scant impact on lending ability and leaves the nonperforming loans to be resolved later.

Housing investment sounds a safe enough form of stimulus, and state banks have agreed to increase their commitments to mass housing projects. However, in many areas gluts of housing exist. Land prices or inappropriate size have pushed them beyond affordable levels. Housing demand also con-tinues to be held back by a hangover from the socialist era — very low public housing rents.

Overall, investment stimulus will happen, but it may not be felt until

At another level of reform, Mr. Zhu wants amalgamations to create large, well-capitalized, technologically ad-vanced companies. But achieving this through central directives and Beijing ministry reshuffles is hardly in the spirit of a more market-oriented economy. Due to China's size and poor transport,



Zhu Rongji holding his first news conference as prime minister.

amalgamations may not make as much sense in practice as in theory. Mr. Zhu's greatest strength may be

that he believes that enterprise and banking reform are more important than the rate of GDP growth. However, that is not a view necessarily shared by the majority of cadres.

Praise for his intellect and achievements in presiding over a soft landing for the economy will be replaced by blame if growth remains low. Reform and low growth may prove incompatible. As prime minister he will also face a much wider range of political pres-sures than as a technocratic deputy prime minister able to focus entirely on economic management.

He will have some of his own men in some key ministries and provinces, but he is not an all-powerful figure. It is easy enough now for Mr. Zhu to affirm that the yuan will be kept stable. The costs as yet are small and the international benefits obvious. But nine mouths from now, if export growth has stopped, it

could be a different story.

In recent years, China's economic performance has confounded the skeptics. But Mr. Zhu's first year in his new office will be China's most severe test since the 1989 Tiananmen Square mas-

#### HANKE: The Voice of Suharto's Guru

Continued from Page 13

course, is just going to keep everybody under water if it isn't rescheduled. The fourth component is a hig privatization

program.
When I presented it to him, the president was wondering, of course: What's this have to do with the rupiah? Well, all of this is connected to trying to get the rupiah fixed at a realistic level. I said. Look, the perception in the markets is that you backtrack on all these promises yoo make about privatization or economic reforms, and you just have to do

nomic reforms, and you just have to do something that's big, selling the crown jewels, in short, and yoo've got to do it right now. It's a credibility thing.'

Q: So far, President Suharto has neither set up a currency board system nor fully adopted the IMF program. What is the present state of play?

A. The state of play is essentially that he has rejected the IMF plan as it stands now, because it has been a failure in his

now, because it has been a failure in his view. He has embraced my IMF-plus program. That is oow leading the race. But he has left the door open for any new alternatives from the G-7 countries that

might be superior to IMF-plus. Q. You mentioned a realistic level for the rupish. In better days the rupish was about 2,500 to the dollar, now it's somewhere in excess of 10,000. What would

be a realistic level? report. It's been reported that I have is going to break out in Indonesia.

announce you are putting in a currency board, let the currency float for 30 days,

recommended 5,000 and that I have also

recommended 5,500. Neither number is

I did tell the president that the longer

he waits, the weaker will be the realistic

level at which yoo acmally can set the

exchange rate under a currency board regime. I think the best thing to do is and then lock in to the exchange rate. That's exactly what we did in Bulgaria in 1997. It worked very well, and I think that's probably what they should do in Q. How much time do you think

Indonesia has?

A. I think time is literally running out.
I recommended two weeks ago when I gave President Subarto the IMF-plus proposal that literally every hour counts in this thing.

Q. How long can be wait?

A. Inaction is unly a viable option for a few more weeks. Every day they don't act they lose about 200 or 250 rupiah to the dollar. That's really untenable. President Suharto knows he will have to make a decisioo soon, and be will,

Q. What do you think Suharto will A. I think at the end of the day, he is going to go with a currency board to stabilize the currency simply because he thinks that the main potential cause for chaos in the country is the weak and unstable currency. And if you don't A. I can't give you the exact number that I thought would be realistic two weeks ago when I gave him my expert's stabilize it at some realistic level, all hell

#### ADIDAS: Big Turnaround in U.S. Market

Continued from Page 13

bok were parlaying a lethal combination of glitzy sneakers made cheaply in low-wage countries and promotions with American sports superstars into dominance of a market that Adidas once

Enter Mr. Louis-Dreyfus. In 1988, he had just finished turning around IMS International, a leading U.S. pharmaceutical market research company, when he sold it to Dun & Bradstreet for \$1.7 billion and decided

Not a bad idea for the scion of one of France's wealthiest families, the owners of giant SA Louis-Dreyfus & Compagnie, the traders and real estate magnates. Yet there was a hitch.

Mr. Louis-Dreyfus was only 42, and when he sought a skiing or golfing partner, no one was around.

"The problem with retirement," he said, "is that your friends are working."
Su when Charles and Maurice Saat-

chi asked him to help right their foundering British advertising agency, Mr. Louis-Dreyfus bit. After three years, in which he cut costs, fired staff and bolstered profit margins, he achieved his second major turnaround. Now he is five years into his third

He says his top priority is to ac-celerate growth in the United States by continuing to whittle away at the market shares of Reebok and Fila.

His second goal, growing out of the first, is to integrate Salomon to give Adidas economies of scale and a leg up in such trendy sports as in-line skating and snow boarding.

Many analysts say the key question now is how Nike will react.

# ZHU: He Pledges to Keep China's Economic Growth Steady at 8%

#### Continued from Page 1

restored in the late 1970s, might prod the Communist Party to reverse its ver-dict on the 1989 uprising and rehabilitate many careers.

Asked whether the government would extend grass-roots village-level elections so that all Chinese could vote for the president and prime minister. Mr. Zhu did not echo other leaders' assertions that China already had democracy or that Asian valoes were different. But neither did he suggest that lying profit fell 21 percent, to \$292 any political reform was imminent.

As for democratic elections in government organs, including the premi-ership and the presidency, this is a problem for reform of the political system,"
Mr. Zho said. "It must take place according to legal procedures. I think more research on this question is nec-

He added, "It is difficult for me to predict when such elections could take

On economic issues, Mr. Zhu displayed stronger views. He said he would put an end to the

system whereby state-owned companies and ministries provide free or extremely cheap housing to employees.
"We will stop all the allocation of welfare housing and all housing will be commercialized," Mr. Zhu said. He also said he would start a health-

care reform program during the second half of this year and overhaul the grain distribution system for more efficient He restated his determination to repair the country's ailing commercial banks and stop the financial hemor-

rhaping at state-owned enterprises with-

in three years, a timetable many analysts consider optimistic. Mr. Zhu displayed his sterner side in warning that charges and fees at local levels exceeded the tax burden on Chinese citizens and had prompted "a lot of complaints." He said; "This policy must be reversed."

He complained that spending on education was being held back because funds were being "eaten up" by the huge government bureaucracy. He reiterated his intention to slash by half the ranks of civil servants.

."A lot of money has been squandered;" he said.

Mr. Zhu said that his economic reform plans would not be altered by the financial crisis sweeping Asia. The prime minister vowed to stimulate domestic demand in order to keep growth at 8 percent, while preventing inflation from rising above 3 percent. For the past four months, prices in China have been declining.
The 69-year-old Chinese prime min-

ister also reaffirmed his confidence in Hong Kong's economy, which has eome under heavy economic pressure since its stock market plunged in October and neighboring countries fell into financial turmoil.

If Hong Kong ever needed and re-quested Beijing's help, Mr. Zhu said, "China would spare no expense to maintain the stability of the Hong Kong and protect the Hong Kong dollar's peg to the U.S. dollar."

Mr. Zhu's news conference marked the end of the 15-day session of the National People's Congress, a body of representatives usually asked to ratify Communist Party decisions.

# TRADE: Asian Crisis Widens U.S. Deficit

#### Continued from Page 1

United States, a departure from past onted States, a departure from past administration practice of allowing only the Treasury secretary, Robert Rubin, to make comments about currency levels for fear of upsetting financial markets. "In Japan, we still face a weak yen, a stagnant Japanese economy and significant trade barriers," Mr. Daley said. In Tokyo, the Finance Ministry re-

In Tokyo, the Finance Ministry reported Thursday that Japan's trade surplus soared in February as imports plunged 15 percent amid weak domestie demand. Japan's customs-cleared trade surplus jumped 89 percent from a year ago, to 1.28 trillion yen (\$9.88 billion).

ary for the second consecutive monthly increase, the Finance Ministry said, Exports slid 9.4 percent.

Economists said the rise could en-courage Washington to turn op the volume on its repeated call for Tokyo to take decisive steps to revive its ailing domestic economy in the face of Asia's economic crisis. Japan's trade surplus with the United States rose 33 percent, to 539.03 billion yen.

Up until now, the Asian crisis has provided mostly positive benefits for the U.S. economy with investors rushing to the safety of U.S. investments, helping to push down interest rates and stim-ulating interest-rate sensitive sectors of The surplus grew 7.6 percent from Janu- the economy. (AP. Reuters, Bloomberg)

# Literacy and the On-Line Generation: The Jury's Still Out

By Mitchell Martin

EW YORK — Lewis Lapham, the editor of Harper's Magazine, was teaching at Yale University several years ago, when he noticed that his students seemed not to share his appreciation of literature. "The kids, though extremely bright, had not read much," he said. These students had "a lot of visual images in their minds, they have seen a lot of movies, a lot of television" but books seemed not to have played much part in forming their communications skills.

Adults have been making similar observations for more than a third of a century, complaining of a televisionhased, short attention span, couch potato culture among younger people, but Mr. Lapham made a subtle distinction.

His recent students, he said, were intelligent but not used to communicating in the linear way of books and letters. "These kids can do homework, listen to music and watch TV at the same time," he said. "It is just different."

The difference, observers said, reflects the influence of the Internet on the way people communicate. In the same way that book-based cultures create quiet, orderly libraries, the on-line age seems to be generating a frenetic en-vironment that reflects the way people interact with the World Wide Web.

Like many high-tech trends, this one has its origins in North America. For example, the United States has three TV channels dedicated to financial news. All three have a main screen, where news anchors present events in the traditional way of television. But across the bottom. stock prices crawl in a modern imitation of a ticker tape, while at the sides, display panels provide other information, such as

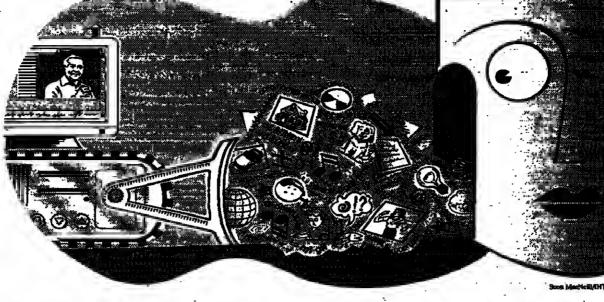
available in many countries, has gone the farthest with this idea. It has the smallest traditional screen and the most display panels. Weather, general and entertainment news, trivia and business information appear in panels that de-scribe an L around the TV display, giv-ing the effect of a husy Web page and one not dissimilar to Blonmberg's information terminals.

"It is very much conscious, very deliberate as a strategy," said John Fram, general manager of new media for Blonmberg. With a personal computer on the desk of practically every American office worker, he said, the on-line environment is a familiar one. 'We are in the world of media," he

said and "one of the things that this world of media has brought to us is the ability to context switch." This means that people can look at the various elements of the screen and process them more or less simultaneously. "The ability to context switch," Mr. Fram added, "does not pecessarily mean a shorter attention span."

In fact, some people say the Internet is belping to increase literacy, at least among people who might otherwise be watching television. "I think you have to be really kind of rigorous in differentiating what goes on in television and what goes on in the Web," said Steven Johnson, editor in chief of the on-line magazine Feed and the author of a book on technology and communication. The Web is really about reading."

Mr. Johnson said that people in their 20s, especially, are watching less TV and spending more time on-line. In his book, "Interface Culture," be points out that, while channel surfing on television is an almost mindless activity of moving from station to station to see if anything of interest emerges, Web-surfing requires users to follow links, a kind of treasure hunt for inthe Dow Jones industrial average. formation they want rather than taking what Bloomberg Television, which is is put in front of them.



Internet or even television is responsible for what he sees as a paucity of good writing, hat he does question whether people are paying as much attention to

their use of language as they used to.
"Maybe we're not reading enough.
There are so many other claims oo people's time. Maybe they read less than they did when there were not as many other distractions," he said. It is not only in head and the payer and the said. in books and magazines that he sees the quality of prose declining. "Listen to the dialogue of the movies of the 1930s. You get wit, and you get repartee." he said, adding these were largely absent from today's films, where action and special effects play more important roles. But overall, Gay Sherman, a teacher

case of the Internet, they are not sitting there like passive little sponges. There is the potential that they are going to be learning something." Ms. Sherman teaches on Martha's Vineyard, the island off the Massachusetts coast, where "we don't have a lot of books." The ability to ohtain information from around the world is like "having a library at your

Although she said she did not see "kids processing things differently" than in the past, "maybe one of the downsides" of the Internet "is that instead of reading a book and getting the full context of something, they are getting more of a sound hite."

When Web browsing emerged, Mr. who has written a book, "Cyberstretch: Johnson's book says, most pages were An Internet Address Guide for School similar to those in books. Readers began to show up in the one it replaces. In the correspondent of the International Her-Teachers," said the Internet adds more at the top and scrolled to the bottom. But 1930s and 1940s, while television was ald Tribune.

Mr. Lapham does not say that the to education than it takes away. "In the this meant that information would scroll off the screen, and that could be troublesome if there were navigational icons at the top of the page, and uneconomical if there was advertising.

> O in mid-1995, frames were developed, allowing a web page to be split into several panels. Now, yoo can scroll through one while the others remain stable, so that help elements or advertisements remain visible all the time. But you no longer see a plain page. You have to deal with several elements that may all be changing or visually clamoring for attention. This is the look that has been transferred to

Bloomberg's television screen. There is a precedent, Mr. Johnson wrote, for the elements of a new medium MITCHELL MARTIN is the New York

being developed and first marketed, ra-dio plays appeared. "With hindsight," Mr. Johnson wrote, "we can see that the classic shows like The Shadow" and 'The Jack Benny Show' weren't really great radio programs. They were just bad television shows. TV-style narratives stripped down to fif the limited dimensions of radio. They were a message

waiting for their medium to come."

A 1990s equivalent might be "Pop-Up Video." This popular show, which appears on VH1 in the United States and on its sister station MTV in other countries, melds commentaries in cartoonlike thought bubbles with music videos. Some of the bubbles, which appear with an audible pop and last about four seconds, provide factual information about how the video was made; others offer tangentially related comments, such as statistics on virginity during Madonna's 'Like a Virgin.'

The concept has spread beyond music videos, with episodes of television shows such as Oprah Winfrey's being "popped up' by Spin the Bottle Inc., the company owned by the show's creators, Tad Low and Woody Thompson. Late last year, Mr. Low and Mr. Thompson were furious when VH1 licensed the idea to Arnold Communications in Boston, which made advertisements for the phone company Bell Atlantic Corp. using information that they said was not always true.

Mr. Low said the inspiration came not from the Web but from Balloon Help, the pop-up assistance available to users of the Macintosh operating system. Mr. Low and Mr. Thompson used the concept to replace a live host and thus show behind-the-scenes commentary at the same time as rock videos, a com-promise with VH1.

# Handheld Computer Starts to Come of Age

By Paul Floren

the handheld computer gradu-ating from a costly gadget to a relatively inexpensive and pro-

The Sharp Mobilon has a huilt-in 33.6 Kbps modem and 16 megabytes of RAM. It also features a digital camera option that plugs into the Type II PCM-CIA card, and the screen becomes the viewfinder.

The Mohilon comes with voice recording for saving random thoughts. It sells for \$600 to \$900.

After downloading graphic files, shareware files and then installing the latest version of productivity applications, notebook computer users may find that their I to 3 G-hyte hard drives are just not big enough.

Procom Technology Inc. in Irvine.

California, announced recently that it may have the solution; the new ATOM4000 Series 4G-hyte hard drive

for notebook computers.

According to Procom, the hard drive is only 12.7 millimeters thick so it can work as an upgrade in smaller laptops and notebooks. However, the new drive, at \$985, might fit your computer hut not your pocketbook.

For desktop PC users with the same

problem, the new Maxtor DiamondMax 2160 hard drive provides 8.4 G-bytes of storage for under \$500.

Marketed for professionals, and costing \$3,000, MicroTek has produced a high-quality picture scanner.
The MicroTek ScanMaker 5 is a flat-

bed scanner with a built-in tray for scanning slides. Distortion problems between slides, films or transparencies have been ARIS — This year should see the handheld computer gradu- the image and the scanner lens.

Biometrics — the identification by machines of human characteristics — are usually considered in terms of security systems. However, technology emerging

from around the world promises more. Mitsubishi Electronics Corp. has used microprocessor chips incorporating bio-metric technology to develop a 3-D track-ing system that senses human motion and gestures, then displays the same movements in graphics models on a scieen.

The system could be used to convert sign language into speech. It is already being incorporated into computer games to be faunched later this month.

Researchers at the Ofuna laboratory used "artificial retina" chips, which mimic the actions of the human eye. The chips are huilt into a two-camera "stereo vision" monitoring system to recognize and capture the face movements of a human demonstrator. The system then imitates these movements using a computer graphics face on a PC display.

At \$1,299, it is expensive for the amateur photographer. The Olympus D-6001. looks, feels and works like the traditional 35-mm single-lens reflex camera: you look through the optical viewfinder to see exactly what the camera sees. The lens is a 3X electronic (36-by-110-millimeter focal lengths) and makes for easy composition

and quick shonting.

The D-6001 allows the user to select the photo quality so a maximum number PAUL FLOREN is on the staff of the



The super-thin fiber-optic cable is revolutionizing communications.

4 megabytes of memory. The camera can take 12 high-resolution images or 50 low-resolution images.

Editing and printing the pictures is easy. Plug the camera into the computer, download the images and then use photo editing software to rework the pictures.

Sega Enterprises Ltd. has officially acknowledged an alliance with Microsoft Corp. for its next-generation Sega game machine. The Sega machine will have much of the functionality of desktop computers by deploying Microsoft's Windows CE.

In an attempt to trump Sony Computer Equipment's PlayStation, Sega's action was seen hy analysts as a move to focus on rebuilding Sega's home video game husiness

of pictures can be put into the camera's International Herald Tribune.

# A Question of Trust on the Net Security Concerns Slow Growth in On-Line Sales \*

By Brian Knowlton

ASHINGTON — The Internet has grown beyond its creators' wildest expec-tations, becoming an increasingly indispensable tool for recommunication entertainment. Commerce has grown rapidly, too, but there is little doubt that it could be growing even faster. Concerns about trust, security and privacy have had a powerful braking effect. With use of the Net skyrocketing —

from 0.2 percent of American house-holds in 1993 to more than 15 percent today — on-line consumer shopping is expected to double to \$1.5 billion this year compared to 1997, according to the U.S. Federal Trade Commission.

The base of users is broadening. Demographically, users now look much more like the overall population than in the days when the Net was largely a tool of scientists or a toy for computer geeks. In 1994, only 5 percent of American users were women; now the figure is close to 40 percent, though it is lower in Europe and Asia.

On-line sales are burgeoning in some sectors. Barnes & Nohle, the book retailing giant, says that sales through America Online Inc. and its own World Wide Web site will hring in \$15 million to \$20 million this year, but an estimated \$120 million next year.

Yet a gap lingers between fast-growing Internet use and the seemingly boundless potential for sales. "If we can establish solid, respectful

interactivity guidelines between Weh merchant" and user, writes Internet Computing magazine, "the sky could be the limit for profitability and consumer options.

Trust is the fundamental ingredient

missing in the minds of many nsers, surveys find, Georgia Institute of Technology researchers found last year that 40 percent of respondents had provided false information at least once when registering at electronic sites on the Web, primarily for fear about how that information might be used, or misused.

Many Internet specialists say users' fears are largely exaggerated. Bot these experts invariably add in the next breath that buyer-beware cautions are funda-

mental in the on-line world.

An estimated 4 percent of U.S. house-holds handle banking transactions online. On-line stock trading, by compa-nies like ETrade and Ameritrade, is also growing fast. In 1996, 1.5 million

#### Many specialists say users' fears are largely exaggerated.

American investors traded on-line; giv-en increased confidence, the number could reach 10 million accounts hy 2001, according to a study by the Arthur Andersen consultancy.

The questions of trust and confidence underlie the debate over encryption of . on-line communications. Encryption uses codes based on mathematical algorithms to make communications secare. The Clinton administration does not want to allow foreign sales of encryption technology, for fear it will be used by drug traffickers, terrorists and other enemies of the state. But the ad-ministration has said it has no intention of seeking to control data-scrambling technology inside the country.

Encryption of financial transactions, including payment by credit card, offers a high level of security, said James Boyle, an American University law professor who wrote a 1996 book on the law and electronic communications. Stories about credit card number theft, he said, are largely a myth. Increasingly, tech-nological fixes, like the user-unique-codes known as "digital signatures," will improve security, he said.

Big Internet providers guarantee purchases made by their customers from vendors within their electronic area. AOL will pay any loss due to credit card fraud that exceeds what the card company cov-ers. So far, said Tatiana Gau, vice pres-ident for integrity assurance at AOL, the Virginia-based company has never had to make good on that guarantee.

The industry has learned that users' fears about privacy have a direct cost. An announcement a few years ago that AOL planned to sell information about its client list led to widespread cancellations - and a reversal by the com-

At present, AOL, which has 11 mil-lion customers worldwide, including 1 million in Europe, is revising its "terms of service," said Ann Brackbill, senior vice president for communications, to make even more plain to users that there will be no disclosure to outside parties of any customer information except mailing lists, unless by court order; that private communications will not be compromised (AOL has admitted that it erred in providing to a navy investigator information about a sailor who referred on-line to being gay).

A key point of concern, said Joshua Micah Marshall, author of articles on the subject in the Internet Legal Practice Newsletter, is something called "cook-ies" — small electronic files that an Internet site can place on the hard drive of a user's computer, often without his knowledge, to gather information about the user and his on-line habits.

Most cookies are harmless - preserving logon information for a site that the International Herald Tribune.

requires a password, for example. But they are increasingly pervasive. And companies often seek to gain more information, useful in directing

their marketing pitches, by having users register on-line for contests or giveaways. A promotion last year by Volvo of North America, for example, offering free test rides and other gifts, received 53 million electronic visits in three weeks.

Most Internet browsers now allow users to be notified each time a cookie is being added, and to block or remove it. "Increasingly," said a congressional technology analyst who asked that his name not be used, "you will know when you're being followed — which is what cookies do."

A European Union directive, to take force in October, aims to protect personal information in computer data-bases and networks in Europe, and it could have a wider effect. The directive holds that personal data must be pro-cessed fairly and lawfully, and collected for specified and legitimate purposes only. Accuracy must be maintained. The subject's explicit consent must be obtained. He must have the right to object to certain data transfers, and to correct mistakes.

The processing of certain categories of data-on race, political opinions, health and sex life, for example — is generally prohibited. Each member state must establish a "supervisory authority" to oversee enforcement of the directive.

The European directives, according to Susan Gindin, a Colorado lawyer, "may have vital global trade con-sequences." She added that "people in the corporate world can't quite believe the EU is going to stick to its guns and enforce its policy against U.S. compa-nies." The United States, with a patch-work of privacy controls largely dependent on self-regulation, would fall short of the EU standards.

Commission officials have indicated some flexibility in applying their stan-dards extraterritorially, and have said that they want to avoid any disruption in

The United States has remained notably shy about installing the national privacy-monitoring authority that the EU calls for The Clinton administration has said that "governments must adopt a nonregulatory, market-oriented approach."

R. CLINTON called this year for Congress to pass the Internet Freedom Tax Act, which would permit states to tax commerce on the Internet only if the vendor has a "physical pres-ence" in the buyer's state — the same policy that applies to mail-order sales. The bill, with strong support by Net-scape, Microsoft, AOL and other Interner companies, would also ban new Internet taxes for several years.

The National Governors Association. on a collision course with Mr. Clinton, last month adopted a resolution calling on states to establish single tax rates on all electronic commerce over the Internet and mail-order purchases. Only the governors of California and Virginia, states with powerful Internet-related industries and companies, dissented.

An industry group called the Global Internet Project, comprising computersector companies, says the world generally appears to be reaching the conclusion that private self-regulation is the way to go. While some countries, no-tably China, restrict access to the Internet, or filter out its content, the trend is. in the other direction. India is ending the monopoly of a state-controlled company that permits access to the Internet.

**Q&A**/ Richard Stallman

# Why Software Should Be Free and Shared

Richard Stallman developed the free itable things that are unethical. There is property should be protected by copy-softwore operating system colled GNU, nothing immoral about profiting from right? which is currently used by on estimoted five million people. Principal author of Ken Shulman.

Q. What is free software? A. Free software is software that gives the users freedom in how they use currently make their profits? it. In contrast, proprietary software is not free, because its uses are restricted. You are prohibited from changing proprietary software. You are not provided that software with your neighbor. If you anybody, not even a programmer, share it with your neighbor, they call People can't learn how the program

you a pirate.
With free software you are encourthe software works, to make changes, and to publish improved versions of it so that the whole community can ben-

O. Do you think it is unethical to profit from the creation of software? A. Not at all. But, as in any area of it. business, there are certainly some prof-

nothing immoral about profiting from making paper. But it becomes immoral

if you pollute a river while doing it. several GNU programs, Mr. Stallman,
45. was aworded a MacArthur Faundation Fellowship in 1990, and reimmoral is if you do it by hurting ceived an honorory doctarate from the people, or hy tempting them into be-Royal Institute of Technology in traying each other. This is what pro-Sweden. He is currently a researcher in prietary software normally does. The residence at the Massachuseus Insti- problem is not that you have to pay for tute of Technology in Cambridge, Mas- proprietary software. The problem is sachusetts, where he recently met with that you also accept being forbidden to share with your neighbor.

Q. How do most software providers

A. Usually by keeping the users in the dark, by making them helpless, and forbidding them to help each other. Users receive only the executable form with the codes to modify it. And you are of the program, which is a bunch of

works and they can't change it. Think about that. If you didn't like What is that? aged to share with you neighbor. You the way your walls in your office were are permitted and enabled to learn how arranged, you would hire a carpenter to move them around.

But if you discover that your software is causing extra trouble, you can't we give the user permission to give doing so it would make life very unjust hire a programmer to fix it. Unless

Because free software gives you the ability to study the program and change

A. People often use the term intellectual property as if it were the name for one specific thing. Actually, it's a catch-all category, and includes several different legal systems. If you want to that requires record companies to pay anderstand them, you've got to un-

limited time the exclusive use of their writings and inventions. The words entitled to anything. They make it an option. The purpose is not to treat authors or inventors better because they deserve to be treated better. The puralso forbidden from sharing copies of numbers that don't mean anything to pose is to promote progress, a result that benefits the public.

Q. GNU software carries a copyleft.

A. Copyleft is a method that ensures that every person who gets a GNU program has the freedoms I've told you recipes with other people and change about. Our software is copyright, but them. And if we stopped them from away copies and to make changes and publish a changed version.

We only require that when someone publishes a changed version, he publishes it under these same terms, with KEN SHULMAN is o freelance jour-Q. Do you think that any intellectual no other restrictions added. The free- nalist based in Boston.

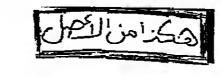
dom to share and change software is an inalienable right in the GNU project.
Q. Is software unique in regards to copyright laws? Are there any analogies with other creative fields?

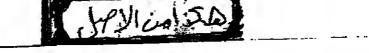
A. The system in music, for example, royalties to composers is a restriction in derstand them one at a time.

In addition, copyright is not a natural right under the U.S. Constitution. The Constitution says that Congress shall of copyright for songs would be achave the power to promote the process captable if people were able to give copies to their friends without restriction.

Yet a similar copyright system for software would be lethal for free softdon't say that authors or inventors are ware. With free software, we are constantly taking pieces of software from many different people and combining them. You wouldn't be able to keep track of a system that required you to pay royalties for each piece you use in the software.

The closest analogy I can think of for software are recipes. A recipe, like a computer program, is a series of steps to be carried out in a particular order to get a result. People constantly share pleasant for people who use recipes. And they would resist this prohibition with all their might.





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THE POWER OF LIGHT. Internet traffic. Video applications. LANS. WANS. (Whew!) What's it going to take to get you the bandwidth you need to make it all work? Optical innovations from Bell Labs. We're dramatically increasing the capacity of existing networks with advanced optical networking technology. Our new WaveStar™ optical networking system is an entirely new level of innovation. It delivers five times the bandwidth of today's commercial fibre-optic systems, without adding more cable. (That's enough capacity to handle every bit of per-second worldwide internet traffic over a single fibre.) We know how to get you the bandwidth your network needs. As much as you need. Where you need it.



We make the things that make communications work."

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# Herald Eribune

#### WORLD ROUNDUP

#### **Mandela Criticizes** Rugby in Court

RUGBY UNION President Nelson Mandela on Thursday attacked racism in South African rugby and criticized Louis Luyt, the head of the South African Rugby Football Union, during an angry defense in the High Court in Pretoria of his decision to order the sport's affairs investigated.

Mandela said he had last year appointed a judicial inquiry into the affairs of SARFU after allegations of racism, nepotism and corruption were leveled against it. SARFU claims the inquiry was

unconstitutional Mandela asked why Luyt was resisting the investigation. "It gives the message that he is hiding something," Mandela said. (AFP)

#### **Historic Day for Cricket**

CRICKET Makhaya Ntini became South Africa's first black test crick-eter Thursday when he made his debut against Sri Lanka in Cape

The 20-year-old Xhosa fast bowler had little to do on the first day. South Africa batted and reached 298 runs for six wickets. Daryll Cullinan was the top scorer with 113 runs. Ntini is scheduled to bat last for South Africa.

 In Calcutta, India raced to 369 for the loss of only three wickets Thursday on the second day of the second test against Australia.

Navjot Sidhn was India's top scorer with 97. His opening partner, Vangipurappu Laxman, scored 95. India leads by 136 runs. (Reuters)

#### Sprewell Faces Jail

BASKETBALL Latrell Sprewell, suspended for attacking Golden State coach P.J. Carlesimo, faces 30 days in jail on a misdemeanor charge of reckless driving, filed by the district attorney in Contra Costa County, California.

Sprewell is accused of injuring two people after driving 90 miles per hour and slamming his car into another vehicle as he tried to swerve back onto a freeway from an exit lane. Sprewell was unhurt but the two people in the other vehicle sustained minor injur-ies. (AP)

#### \$36 Million Deal for Sapp

FOOTBALL The Tampa Bay Buccaneers made tackle Warren Sapp the highest paid defensive player in ing him to a six-year, \$36 million deal that includes a bonus of more than \$8 million.

#### **Brazil Wants Barca Stars**

SOCCER Mario Zagallo, the Brazil coach said Wednesday that he might demand that Barcelona release its Brazilian players — Rivaldo, Giovanni and Sonny Anderson — for a match against Argentina on April 29, the night Barcelona faces Majorca in the Spanish Cup final. (Reuters)

# The Sweetness Returns For Coach Harrick

#### Life Is a Box of Chocolates in Rhode Island

By William C. Rhoden New York Times Service

INGSTON, Rhode Island --- Jim Harrick walked into the small press room here at Mackal Field House with a box of chocolates. How fitting. Just a few days ago, Harrick's

Rhode Island team seeded No. 8, pulled off the upset of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament by knocking No. 1 Kansas out of the Midwest Regional with an 80-75 vic-

The box of chocolates, then, symbolized the sweetness of the victory Snaday for a spot in the Round of 16. Bnt for Har-

rick, 59, the sweetness goes far beyond a victory over Kansas. Last season, Harrick was out of col-

lege basketball, forced out one year after leading UCLA to a national cham-

He was fired for lying about a detail on an expense report. Last year, he roamed the tournament like a ghost, working as a television analyst.

At the Final Four games, you could sense the agony and yearning as he interviewed Lute Olson, his Pacific-10 rival at Arizona, as Olson was about to capture the national championship Harrick was unable to compete for,

It was a humbling moment for a coach alternately known as arrogant and down-to-earth.

When word first surfaced last spring that Harrick was the leading candidate to replace Al Skinner, segments of the Rhode Island faculty were not pleased. They felt that hiring Harrick would send ont a wrong message by a school that had already suffered the exposure of a gambling ring in 1992 that involved students and an incident in which members of the football team trashed a fra-

When Robert Carothers, the university's president, introduced Harrick last May, he prefaced his remarks by speaking of the hero who reaches the pinnacle and then falls,

"There is a moment of recognition and realization in which the fallen hero realizes his flaw and expresses contrition," Carothers said. "There is a thing called redemption."

Not everyone accepted that feel-good analogy. Carothers said he spoke with the

UCLA trainer for more than an hour. However, he never spoke with Peter Dalis, the UCLA athletic director, who dismissed Harrick in the first place. The view from Rhode Island is that

there was a clash of egos — Harrick's and Dalis's - at UCLA and that Harrick lost. But the fact remains that Harrick lied

to his superior to cover up what could have been an NCAA violation. "We had a candid talk about that," Carothers said. "He said he did it out of

loyalty, hut that can't be the highest All the lofty talk of higher standards and heroes fallen from Olympus is fine sacrificed a pinch of integrity? One of Harrick's first acts was to bring Lamar Odom to the campus. Odom, a talented player who has not qualified academically to play col-lege basketball, is en-rolled as a nonmatriculat-

In the hurly-burly of big-time ath-letics, the fuel on which programs run is

players. The catch phrase is not con-

trition but "getting it done." Perhaps the question is whether Rhode Island

has made a Faustian pact: For want of

national exposure, has the university

And there are rumors that Harrick's Rhode Island job may just be a life raft that carries him to the National Bas-

ing student. He could enroll next fall as a fresh-

ketball Association. "This is not a stepping-stone for me," Harrick said Tuesday. "This is a

fresh start for me." For Harrick, the chocolates he carried represented the sweetness of redemotion, the sweetness of revenge and the

sweetness of family. "The wounds are healed but the scar's still there," he said. "I think about it," he said. He also thinks about the exhilaration

of leading a new team to new heights. To coaching against his son, Jim Jr., a Val-paraiso assistant, on Friday. "There are defining moments in your

life," Harrick said.
"Tyus Edney going the length of the floor was a defining point in my coaching career. Winning the national championship, beating Kansas and hugging your son after the victory. These are defining moments in your life."



GOLDEN FAREWELL — Sam Jacobson, a Minnesota forward, powering between Aaron Hutchins (12) and Mike Bargen of Marquette University in a National Invitation Tournament quarterfinal in Minneapolis. The Golden Gophers won, 73-71, and advanced to the NIT finals in New York. Jacobson, a senior, scored 21 points in his final home game.

# Tarkanian and Team Get a Warning

The Associated Press

FRESNO, California - Jerry Tarkanian arrived at Fresno State three seasons ago with a promise to turn the

basketball team into a winner. He made good on that vow, but along with that success has come trouble that threatens to undermine the Bulldogs' run to the National Invitation Tournament quarterfinals.

A day after two players were arrested on robbery and assault charges, the Fresno State president, John Welty, said Wednesday that he would pull the school out of the tournament "if any player or coach further disgraces this university with objectionable behavi-

The arrests are merely the latest problems facing the Bulldogs.

Welty said his patience "is at an end" with drug and other legal prob-lems that have resulted in 6 of the school's 10 scholarship players serving suspensions this season.

The school president said such incidents, as well as an ongoing grand jury investigation of alleged point-shaving last season, have badly damaged the

'Obviously, the behavior of a couple

of our basketball players has again generated a black eye for this university," Welty said. "With each shameful incident, the institutional damage is compounded."

The Bulldogs advanced to the third round of the NIT with a last-second 83-80 victory over Memphis on Monday, They were scheduled to play a quarterfinal game Friday night at Hawaii. Avondre Jones, a senior, and Kenny Brunner, a freshman transfer, were ar-

rested Tuesday for investigation of robbing and assaulting an acquaintance, samurai swords. The alleged incident occurred hours

after the victory over Memphis, as the three drank whiskey and watched tele-

"Avondre put the gun right up against my face and said to me, 'I can just blow a hole through your face right now. What do you think of that?" DeForrest said. DeForrest told police that Jones, with

Brunner's help, then took a daily planuer containing \$250 and a camera from his backpack. Jones and Brunner denied the ac-

cusations, but Tarkanian kicked Jones

off the team and indefinitely suspended Brunner. The police report was submitted

Wednesday to prosecutors. The district attorney, Ed Hunt, said no action was expected for at least two weeks, giving officials time to investigate the case.

Welty supported Tarkanian, saying that the coach has strongly backed the school's tough new code of conduct that resulted in player suspensions. Tarkanian kicked Jones off the team because the center was ordered to follow stringent rules as a result of a previous suspen-

Tarkanian is one of the most successful coaches in college basketball history, but trouble has followed him from Long Beach State to the University of Nevada at Las Vegas to Fresno State. A 1955 graduate of Fresno State, he has led the Bulldogs to three straight NIT appearances.

Several players were suspended this season for incidents involving domestic violence. A star guard, Chris Herren, left the team for part of the season to deal with a substance abuse problem, and a federal grand jury continues to investigate the point-shaving allegations from last season.

# Rough Night For Malone In Charlotte

The Associated Press It was a rough night for Karl Malone

and the Utah Jazz. The Hornets snapped Utah's 11game winning streak, 111-85, on Wednesday night in Charlotte, and Malone finished the game looking like a beaten

boxer. Malone got scratched across the face when Charlotte's David Wesley tried to block a shot late in the second quarter, and he played the second half with

#### NBA ROUNDUP

swollen eyes. He later accused Wesley

of trying to hart him.
"Twe played the game long enough
to know when a guy is really going at the
basketball, and he went at my head," said Malone, who scored 17 points on 6of-15 shooting. "So I'll just throw that ... one in my memory banks.'

Wesley, who at 6-foot-1 (1.8 meters) and 202 pounds (92 kilograms) is eight inches shorter and 54 pounds lighter than Malone, called the accusation "ri-

"He'd already put an elbow in my face," said Wesley, who had 13 points and 13 assists. "It was just a foul. I'm down there by myself. He's already got a foot in the lane. What am I going to

Glen Rice scored 26 points on 11-of-14 shooting for the Hornets, who shot a season-best 61 percent from the field and won for the 12th time in 13 games. The Jazz shot only 37 percent from the field, more than 11 percent helow

their league-leading average.

Heat 94, Grizzline 91 Alonzo Mourning scored 26 points and Dan Majerle scored four in the final 70 seconds as

Miami beat visiting Vancouver.

Tim Hardaway had 23 points and 11 assists for the Heat. Shareef Abdur-Rahim scored 21 points and Bryant Reeves had 20 for the Grizzlies, who

have lost five straight and 13 of 14. . 76ers 104, Pistons 96 Allen Iverson scored a season-high 38 points as Philadelphia won in Detroit.

The Sixers also got a lift from two former Pistons, Theo Ratliff and Aaron McKie, who were acquired in December in a trade for Jerry Stackhouse and Eric Montross. Ratliff had 18 points and 10 rebounds, while McKie finished with 12 points, eight rebounds and eight assists. Grant Hill led Detroit with 31 points and nine rebounds.

Spurs 92, Timberwolves 76 Tim Duncan had 20 points and 11 rebounds. and San Antonio held host Minnesota to a season-low point total.

lis matched his season high with 23 points as Seattle became the NBA's first 50-game winner this season. Ellis scored five points in a 14-0 run that gave the host Sonics a 91-75 lead with six minutes remaining.

Leters 39, 5 cms 93 Shaquille O'Neal scored 33 points and grabbed a season-high 22 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers held off Phoenix for their sev-

enth victory in eight games. Robert Horry had 18 points and 10 rebounds for host Los Angeles. Antonio McDyess led the Suns with 20 points and seven rebounds, but was held seqreless in the fourth quarter.

#### **CROSSWORD**

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# Gretzky Slips One Past the Canadiens

The New York Rangers peppered the Montreal goalie Jocelyo Thibault with shots throughout overtime Wednesday night. Thibault was up to each challenge - until Wayne Gretzky made the play of the night.

Gretzky's brilliant pass between two defenders was tipped home by Kevin

NHL ROUNDUP

Stevens with 18 seconds to go in the extra session. That lifted the Rangers past the Canadiens, 2-1. "It was a lucky decision," said Gretzky, the National Hockey League's ca-

reer scoring leader, with undue modesty. "Nine out of 10 times, I would have given it back to Brian Leetch. He was hollering for it. Kevin went to the net and I was lucky to get it to him.' After a scoreless two periods in Madison Square Garden, the game

opened up, with all the goals scored in the third period and overtime. Mike Eastwood gave the Rangers a 1-0 lead 28 seconds into the third period with his fifth goal. Jonas Hoglund tied it with 6:21 left in regulation on a power play. The Rangers blitzed the Canadiens in overtime, getting all seven shots.

islanders 4, Senators 4 Ottawa fought back from a 4-0 deficit in the third period. Magnus Arvedson, Wade Redden and Shawn McEachem scored for the Senators in a 4:05 span. Sergei Zhol-

tok sent the game into overtime with 1:28 remainin Tom Chorske scored two unassisted

goals for the visiting Islanders. Penguins 4, Oilers 2 In Pittsburgh. Jaromir Jagr scored his 31st goal and Ron Francis had two assists to raise his career total to 999. Francis has 55 assists this season, and is trying to become the seventh NHL player to get 1,000. Rob Brown scored the tie-breaking

goal in the second period. Devils 3, Mighty Ducks 0 Martin Brodeur broke his team record for victory in a season by stopping 25 shots for New Jersey at home.

Brodeur did not have to make many difficult saves in recording his 38th victory, but he stopped Teemu Selanne, who has 43 goals this season, three times on breakaways. s O Olaf Kolzig Capitals 1, Hurrica

alty-killing team in the NHL, shot down all eight power plays by Carolina. Steve Konowalchuk's first-period power-play goal was enough to give the Capitals their fifth win in six games and to snap a four-game road winning streak

for the Hurricanes. Lightning 4, Canucks 2 Stephane Richer had two goals and two assists and Mark Fitzpatrick made 33 saves as Tampa Bay won its second straight home game. Richer converted two feeds by Jody Hull into goals and added assists on goals by Darcy Tucker and Hull to cap a four-point night.

Red Wings 5, Maple Leafs 2 Kris Draper scored twice and Norm Maracle, a rookie goalie, made 20 saves to win his

second game in as many nights.

Mike Knnhle, Brendan Shanahan and Vyacheslav Kozlov also scored for Detroit, which ended a three-game road losing streak. Alyn McCauley and

Derek King replied for Toronto. Stars 3, Sharks 1 Jamie Wright and Dan Keczmer, fill-ins for injury-plagued Dallas, both scored. Dallas also got a power-play goal, its 14th in the last 14 games, from Jere Lehtinen with 9:23 remaining. The Stars have won three

stopped 36 shots for his third shutout of the season. The Capitals, the top pen-San Jose ontshot the visitors 34-13, but was frustrated by goalie Roman Turek, who had 33 saves in his sixth straight victory.

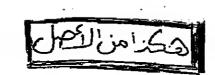


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# Monaco's Awesome Strike Knocks Out Manchester

Real Madrid, Juventus and Borussia Advance

By Rob Hughes International Herald Tribune

LONDON - A goal of beauty, laced with rearsome power, put Monaco into the final four of the Champions League.

The shot registered 96 miles per hour (155 kilometers) on an electronic device. It was struck Wednesday night by David Trezeguet and even though Manchester United tied the

#### CHAMPIONS CUP

score, 1-1, the goal counted double for the visitors, so that Monaco reached the semifinals of the competition along with three resurgent clubs: Real Madrid, Juventus and Borussia Dortmund.

Trezeguet, barely 20 years old, is something of a beginner in the professional game heaven help the goalkeepers when he polishes his technique. Trezeguet's howitzer from just outside the penalty box caught Raimond Van Der Gouw, the Manchester goalkeeper, blinking like a plattic startled in headlights.

The ball traveled faster than a man can think, never mind react, and rose from the right boot, soaring 20 yards (18 meters) and hitting the net at head height.

Sport can get no closer to acceptable violence. It was indeed beautiful but also costly on the London stock exchange, where Manchester United's valuation fell by £26 million (\$43 million) from £353 million at the beginning of trading Thursday morning.

That is modern, big-league soccer. United pays the price, while Juventus, Dortmund and Real Madrid are reaping the profits.
In Manchester, the capacity crowd was reduced from cuphoria to disbelief by Monaco's control in the first half.

'The boy Trezeguet's goal senied Monaco

opposition but, wait, Ferguson had some-thing to add: "If we'd been closer to a full strength

side, we'd have beaten them without doubt.' If Ferguson had allowed his team to play its normal, attacking, vigorous style in the game in Monte Carlo two weeks ago, who knows what might have been. Instead, United, playing a sterile, low-tempo goalless draw in the Louis II Stade, underestimated Monaco on Wednesday night and failed to pressurize the French team, which had eight players with yellow cards.

Monaco accepted the dull draw at home because it meant no further yellow cards and allowed it to field a full team for the second leg — where John Collins, the most tenacious player on the field, and Philippe Leonard both received a second booking. They will miss the first leg of the semifinal, but had those cards come in Monaco, the two would not have played Wednesday to help eliminate United. Ferguson's claim about ill luck and injuries has truth. His goalkeeper, Peter Schmeichel, as well as Gary Pallister, Roy Keane, and Ryan Giggs, missed the game. Worse, United had gambled on Gary Neville and Paul Scholes, both of whom lasted less than half the contest. But in soccer there is a saying: You make

injuries were long-term, yet failed to invest in quality backups. Jean Tigana made light of his problems rebuilding Monaco after losing players of the caliber of Sonny Anderson. He recast his team, he motivated them and marshaled them. On Wednesday, the impressive Martin Djetou shut out Teddy Sheringham, United's intended playmaker. And while United complained that its resources were depleted and its reserves too young, Monaco fielded eight players younger

your luck. Manchester, ruled these days by a

public limited company, knew some of the

than its Manchester counterparts, down, and after that they controlled the ball well," said Alex Ferguson, United's manager.

90,000 people in Madrid's Bernabeu Sta-It was nice to hear a Briton praise the dium, waiting for Real to reclaim the Euro- lucky,"



Andrei Solomatin of Lokomotiv Moscow, battling Tony Savevski, left, and Ilias Atmatzidis of AEK Athens during a Cup Winners Cup match Thursday in Moscow, Igor in Brooklyn. Chugainov scored a late goal to give Lokomotiv victory, 2-1, in the game and overall.

pean Cup it last won in 1966, watched, hearts ident. "We were careless when they scored, and

header, from a corner. Finally, Fernando Hierro, always a power for Real though he misses the first leg of the semifinal because he is suspended, thumped home a penalty kick. It was all Leverkusen, for their caution and their reliance on Heinen's heroics, deserved.

Bornssia Dortmund 1, Bayern Munich 0 The stalemate between Germany's other two entries lasted 109 minutes in Dortmund before Stephane Chapmisat scored the only goal.

The modern German way is to eliminate terprising and elegant of players, makes apo- Rebrov became insignificant. logies for this anti-football.

My team tried everything, but we were unsaid Beckenbauer, now Bayem's pres- London.

in mouth, as the Leverkosen goalie, Dirk Chapuisat was incky to hit the ball just right."

Heinen, defied Raul Gonzalez and company

Remember, you make your luck. Deep into extra time, Chapuisat found half a yard of Then Christian Karemben, who scored his space 11 meters from the Bayern goal and, first goal for Real in the 1-1 draw in the first with a left foot volley, guided the ball venom-

leg, headed in the opening goal from Clarence
Seedorf's corner kick.

Fernando Morientes, a substitute for the injured Brazilian Savio, scored with another

and even Beckenbaner agreed that his quarrelsome team was "a bit too passive." Dynamo Key 1, Juventus 4 There was noth-

ing remotely passive about Filippo Inzaghi, who repaid the continuing faith of Marcello Lippi, the Juventus coach, with three goals in front of 100,000 Ukrainians. Two of the goals, were headed in from Dodgers and Fox, speaking with baseball and has full or

corners and one tapped home after a silky run on condition of anonymity, from the wizard Zinedine Zidane. Too often said the vote by National Inzaghi has failed to finish what he started. It was his time Wednesday in cold Kiev and risk. It remains puzzling and painful that with Alessandro Del Piero chipping in a the American League. The Franz Beckenbauer, in his day the most enfourth goal, the earlier strike from Sergei votes against the sale were

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of New York Mets abstained.

# Owners Approve Dodgers' Sale to **Murdoch Group**

ida — Baseball owners on acres surrounding the ball-Thursday approved the sale of park in downtown Los the Los Angeles Dodgers from Angeles and training com-Peter O'Malley to Rupert plexes in Vero Beach, Florida, Murdoch's Fox Group.

"Fox will be a great conThe most paid previously tributor to the baseball infor a baseball franchise was dustry" said O'Malley, who the \$173 million the Baltimore will remain as an executive Orioles brought in 1993. with the team. O'Malley's family had controlled the team since Oct. 26, 1950, when the Dodgers were still

'Since Fox entered sports, we have been amongst the strongest believers and supporters of major league basestatement. "As owners of the Dodgers, we will work handin-hand with the other owners to further assure the long-

In approving the sale, owners disregarded the opposition of Murdoch's arch enemy, Ted Turner, who is vice chairman of Time Warner Inc. and owner of the Atlanta Braves.

Sources close to the League teams was 14-1 with one abstention, and 13-1 in cast by Tumer's Braves and the Chicago White Sox; the all the way around is very

The sale, valued at about

ST. PETERSBURG, Flor- team, Dodger Stadium, 300 and the Dominican Republic'

Turner, who has sparred with the more conservative Murdoch over politics and

tended an owners' meeting for the first time in nine years in an attempt to block the sale. He spoke Wednesday for less than five minutes, acball," Murdoch said in a cording to several owners who spoke on the condition

their competing businesses, at-

they not be identified. Turner took a low-key approach of outlining Muridoch's possible legal conflicts of interest and questioning whether would be a partner with the

other owners. Critics have noted that Fox, a division of Murdoch's News Corp., has national television and cable contracts partial local rights to games

involving 22 of the 30 teams, Chase Carey, News Corp.'s co-chief operating officer, met with several owners Wednesday to address their concerns: "I believe the synergism useful," said Bud Selig, the acting commissioner.

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BASKETBALL

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9), Milani 46 (Brown 12), Assists—Vancouver 20 (Hutrley 5), Milani 27 (Hordowy) 111,
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U: Molane 6-15-5-17; Months-6-10-0-12:C;
Rice 11-15 2-4 26 Mucarell 6-9 0-0 14.
Rebounds—Utoh 59 (Molane, Russell 9),
Charloffe 4 (Massan 8), Assists—Utoh 18
(Stocklon 7), Charloffe 37 (Wesley 13).

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S.A.: Johnson 9-124-4 22, Duncon 7-12 1-2
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Minnesofu Sti (Garnett 10), Assista-Son
Antonio 27 Lichtonio 10 Allemente 27

LA Lowers its Lakers: C'Meat 13-287-1133, Horry 8-10-118. Rebounds--Phoents: 51 (Williams, Kidd 9), Lakers 69 (C'Meat 22). Assists--Phoents 22 (Kidd 12), Lakers 26 (Van Erol 7).

NIT

Penn State 75, Georgia Tech 70

ICEHOCKEY NHL STANDINGS ATLANTIC DIVISION
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15 42 9 39 12 24 THEAST DIVISION 35 19 14 84 192 158 32 26 9 73 194 169 29 24 13 73 194 160 27 24 15 69 166 156 27 29 11 66 160 168 26 23 3 7 89 160 178 Pirst Period: P-Hotcher 14 (Bornes, Clausson) 2 E-McAmmond 15 3, P-Bornes 28 (Francis, Joyr) Second Period: E-Grier 9 (Huord, Musil) 5, P-Brown 11 (Moron. First Per (Huord, Musil 5, P-Brown 11 (Moror, Werenko) 6, P-Bory 11 (Francis, Bornes) Third Period: None, Shots on gool: E-10-7-5-22, P-12-7-6-35, Gootles: E-Joseph, P-Borrosso.

Kidd, W-Kotzig,
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11, Second Perfod: New York, Jonsson 12
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#### CRICKET

SOUTH AFRICA VIS. SHI SANKA

INDIA VS. AUSTRALL

#### SOCCER CHAMPIONS CUP

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Joventus won 5-2 on aggregate, anchester United 1, Manaco 1 CUP WINNERS' CUP

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· SCOTTISH CUP

# TRANSITIONS

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president and general manager. Susuri Inquesoil executive existion in general monager.
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NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION as w Jesses - Signed I but y dought for a second 16-day contract.
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POOTBALL

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

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casigned him to Michigan, IHL.

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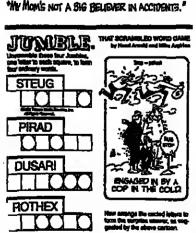
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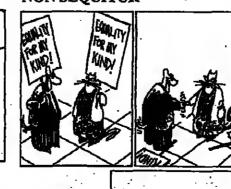
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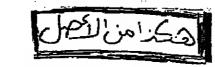
WIZARD of ID











# The Shoals of Camelot

By John J. Goldman Los Angeles Times Service

NEW YORK — Camelot took a beating at a sparsely-attended, controver- paid for a mummified morsel sial auction of Kennedy memorabilia as many items failed to meet the prices predicted in the catalogue by Gnemsey's, a small Manhattan auction house.

There was one major exception. To the surprise even of its owners, who would have accepted less, the 88-ton presidential motor yacht Honey Fitz, named for John F. Kennedy's maternal grandfather, sold for \$5.9 million to an unidentified telephone bidder. The yacht was a lastminute entry, and its sale brought a burst of excitement Wednesday in what had been a discouraging day. The sale continued Thursday.

Moments later, another unidentified hidder purchased President Kennedy's black alligator briefcase for \$700,000. an offer \$100,000 below what the seller really wanted. "It didn't happen to go up as much as it should have be-cause of all the controversy," said Jacquelyn White, whose

are going low enough that regular people can afford them," he said. "Evelyn would have loved that."

Before the sale began kennedy's them, Before the sale began kennedy's them are going low enough that regular people can afford them," he said. "Evelyn would have loved that."

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Before the sale began kennedy's them are going low enough that regular people can afford them," he said. "Evelyn would have loved that." ding stalled at \$750,000, which was \$100,000 below the timepiece's minimum es-

Kennedy's sailboat Flash II ran aground on the shoals of low bidding, withdrawn from sale when interest among pro-spective huyers ended at \$800,000, one third of the

hoped-for price. The president's rocking chair fetched only \$20,000 compared with the \$453,000

one of his rockers brought at a Sotheby's auction two years ago. A rose from his 44th birthday cake wilted at \$550. versus the \$29,900 receotly of the duke and duchess of Windsor's wedding cake.

Nonetheless, the president's pocket comb sold for \$1,100, his shoe horn for \$1,800 and a set of his cuff links for \$10,000.

The tone of the auction was set by the attendance -- perbaps 150 people in an armory designed to seat many hundreds — and by the price of the first item, a wide-angle color photograph of President Kennedy delivering a State of the Union address. The winning offer was \$600, against a pre-sale estimate of \$1.600.

Robert L. White, the Maryland collector who contributed most of the merchandise after it was willed to him by Kennedy's secretary, Evelyn N. Lincoln (who died in 1995), tried to put a cheerful face on the auction, which he hoped would bring his family financial security

"I'm just glad some things

auction, charging that Lin-coln had taken items from the White House. The allegation was denied strongly by hoth Guernsey's and by White. The National Archives also

took possession of 21 items that it contended were of "major historical signifi-cance" — including a congratulatory telegram that Lyndon B. Johnson sent when Kennedy won the Democratic

# Eating Out in Moscow: It's Not the Food, Stupid

By Alessandra Stanley New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Usruly and almost lawless, Russia today is often compared to Chicago in the roaring '20s - a free-market jungle where businessmen settle scores with gun blasts, bureaucrats line their pockets and vast fortunes are amassed overnight. But when it comes to the novel pursuit of fine dining, Moscow is closer to Los Angeles in the '30s.

A little like the early Hollywood landgrabbers whose homes reflected their delusions of grandeur - Moorisb castles, Spanish haciendas, Roman villas — Russian restaurateurs are unfurling their richest fantasies uninhibited by tradition or conventional notions of good taste.

In Soviet times, there were few restaurants, and no good ones. In the past two years, newly rich Russians have confected dozens of restaurants that bave less to do with haute cuisine than high concept - lavish gastronomic theme parks for rich adults.

At one of the most popular, Czarskaya Okhota, whose name means the Czar's Hunt, guests are sucked into a culinary Disney World of wolf skins, cannons, bearskin rugs, stuffed partridges hanging from wall sconces, even an indoor water mill and a curved wooden hridge.

Hordes of waiters, dressed as serfs in red

tunics and red boots, scurry from table to table, silently and deferentially serving dishes like Bonfire-Scented Leg of Game and Herring Under Boyar's Fur Coat. Only the incessant beeping of cellular phones punctuates the feudal atmosphere.

Czarskaya Okhota was created a year ago as a playground for the bankers, husinessmen and mobsters who make up the class known as new Russians. They are about the only ones who can afford the ticket: dinner for two is rarely under \$250 at restaurants like this one, high even by New York or Paris standards. The prices are unthinkable by ordinary Russian standards; the average monthly salary in Moscow is \$200.

Novikov, 35, a former Soviet chef who has transformed himself into the leading new tinued. "People went out for special oc-Russian restaurateur. With little foreign travel or background in European dining (he was rejected for a joh at a Moscow Mc-Donald's), Novikov grabs for inspiration like a shopper hellbent on completing a supermarket sweepstakes.

'I never went abroad until 1993." said



Dinner for two at Czarskaya Okhota, or the Czar's Hunt, easily costs \$250.

Novikov, who studied cooking at the Soviet Institute of the People's Economy. "I get my ideas where I can.

Guided by the giddy thrill of sudden, seemingly limitless wealth, rich Russians take an almost childlike delight in fanciful nights out. They are drawn to theme restaurants that combine good, costly food with opulent fantasy and gastronomic special effects.

"Russians" relationship to restaurants

was never functional, and it was never about dining - you didn't go ont to get something to eat." said Stas Namin, 46, a rock musician and big real estate investor, who is a coowner of Czarskaya Okhota. Namin is his stage name; he was born Anastas Mikoyan. the grandson of the one of Stalin's top aides wasn't any good food anywhere," he con-

casions expecting to be entertained."

And they still do. If in New York the cognoscenti seem on an endless quest for the hurnished understatement of a neighborhood Parisian brasserie, Russians like their food

served up aux Folies Bergere. Serena, a seafood restaurant that Novikov

opened in 1992 as a nautical wonderland, has huge sturgeon and pike swimming beneath glass floors under diners' feet. Waiters in hlue-and-white sailor suits look as if they had just left the imperial yacht. The dinner plates are shaped like clamshells. Even the food has a rich fantasy life: Broken Heart of Scotch Salmon, salmon baked in a flaky puff pastry, is served heart-shaped and pierced by a long. thin wooden dagger, with blood (actually cranberry sauce) oozing from the wound.

Belove Solntze Pustyni, which Novikov opened four months ago, offers expensive and delicious Uzbek food in a dizzyingly exotic desert-oasis setting borrowed from a popular Russian movie, "White Sun of the Desert." Guests feast on ploy, a spicy Cen-The restaurant is the brainchild of Arkadi in the Polithuro. "In Soviet times, there tral Asian rice dish and lamb shashlik, alongside plaster figures of Central Asian handits being massacred by handsome Red Guards. Russian waitresses are dressed in bejeweled Uzbek native costume, and water trickles from fake waterfalls and rock gardens.

Konstantin Ernst, a filmmaker and television executive, joined the trend and opened Shinok, whose name means Roadside Café in Ukrainian. This restaurant, in husy down-

town Moscow, offers gussied-up peasant food, including krovyanka (blood sausage) and an appetizer of salo (salted pig fat) in a and an appenzer of saus (saust ing in) in a contrived setting worthy of Marie Antoinette: live horses, chickens and goats graze amid fake grass and bushes in a glassed-in farmyard. But the prices are urban: about \$70 a person, wine not included. And there is nothperson, wine not included. And there is nothing folksy about the grim security guards at the front door who look over visitors as if they were poorly disguised suicide bombers.

The Prague, a famous old restaurant on the Old Arbat that was a favorite haunt of Table.

The Prague, a famous old restaurant on the Old Arbat that was a favorite haunt of Tolstoy, was reopened in August after a \$31 million makeover, the pet project of Telman Ismaelov, a wealthy businessman. It now bouses a variety of theme restaurants—Brazilian, Asian and Italian—as well as the Czar's Hall, where waiters wear gold-emarkoridered coats and powdered wigs.

broidered coats and powdered wigs.

Mostly, it is the new rich who can afford such places, though there is a rising Russian middle class — salesmen, accountants, advertising executives — that is increasingly able to afford a night on the town, if a less When capitalism made its debut in the late 180s, restaurants, like casinos, shore extravagant one.

1980s, restaurants, like casinos, shops and outdoor kiosks, were easy prey for gangsters, who either invested in them to launder money or extorted a cut of the profits.

Restaurants remain a risky business: the Russian partner in Tren-Mos. one of the first

Russian partner in Tren-Mos, one of the first
American restaurants in Moscow, was gunned down in 1993. His American partner gunned down in 1995. His American parties left the country, and the restaurant has since closed. This winter, a bomh was tossed through the window of a McDonald's under construction in central St. Petersburg. No one was hurt, hut the damage was extensive.

Many restaurants are mob-owned, but few flaunt it anymore. The market, moreover, has matured since the early 1990s. Small establishments are still vulnerable to extortion (from gangsters or corrupt municipal of ficials), but the chains and hig operators have established close relationships with leading law enforcement officials.

Novikov of Czarskaya Okhoya is already dreaming up his next gastronomic adventure, a giant pink restaurant, where wait resses would dress according to the food they served: mutton served by a waitress dressed;

He does not intend it as a children's restaurant. "In Russia, adults are children," he said, "This is for them."

#### PEOPLE

LREADY hidding good-hye to "Sein-A feld," NBC is desperately trying to keep its best-known television spouses around for another season - and it turns out the "Mad About You' stars are mad about money. Helen Hunt and Paul Reiser are demanding \$1 million each an episode, the New York Post reported. The newspaper and Daily Variety both said the network's top offer so far was \$750,000. Hunt, a best-actress Academy Award nominee for "As Good as It Gets," is fielding offers for other film work and her asking price has increased, Variety said. Reiser has a contract guarantee that his salary will

Prince Albert of Monaco said in an interview published Thursday that he had found a woman he hopes to make his wife — but he declined to name ber. "It is a little premature to say if she will share my life, and even too said Paul Burr soon to talk about it," he told the French in a private wa weekly Paris Match when asked if it was true a public way." he would be married. Albert, who turned 40 on March 14, has been told by his father, Prince Rainier, that he must marry before he can take over the job of governing the tiny

principality. Prince Rainier, said, meanwhile, that his son and heir 'should marry' because the palace was not meant to be the home of an "old bachelor."

Two women formally took command of warships of the Royal Navy on Thursday, ending centuries of British naval tradition. The appointments of Lieutenant Suzanne Moore, 26, and Lieutenant Melanie Robinson, 29, were on merit and in direct competition with all officers, a navy spokesman said.

The butler for Diana, Princess of Wales. who has spent the months since her death sorting through ber personal possessions, has been named fund-raising manager for her memorial charity. "To me, it is a way of carrying forward what I began 10 years ago." said Paul Burrell, "looking after the princess in a private way. I can now take care of her in

Christian Slater's jailers say his stay in



their suburban lockup in La Verne, California, Helen Hunt hopes to pry open the vault at NBC.

brought unsolicited movie scripts, Bible-tot- city plans to make DiCaptio an honoracing groupies and visits from the actors Leonard Nimoy and Mike Meyers. "It was somewhat intriguing being in the limelight for a day or two," Captain Ken Swank said of the media hlitz when Slater arrived Jan. 14. The actor was released last week after serving

Oscar-nominated role in "Ulee's Gold," but many fans still remember him for his rowdy B-movie "The Wild Angels." The Roger can learn about South African musicians in even buy the music. Corman motorcycle movie, also starring even buy the music. Nancy Sinatra and Bruce Dern and regarded as a precursor to the 1969 biker movie "Easy Rider," will be the centerpiece of Saturday night's irreverent "Lost Drive-In" show on

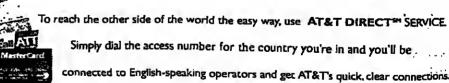
Leonardo DiCaprio's "Titanic" performance scored some points in Wisconsin, even if he did get snubbed in the Academy Award nominations. His "Titanic" character, Jack Dawson, hailed from Chippewa Falls, and the

cable television's Speedvision.

citizen. As such, he will be sent a 'cating package," complete with a sampling of loca products, including Leinenkugel beer, and key to the city.

South African music may be the next by thing. Jones announced that he was help create a new Web site, www.Qradio.net. The program of the prog

Don Knotts is getting his own boulevant Charleston, West Virginia, a hometown tritli ute that some think doeso't do him justice State lawmakers passed a resolution to it name a part of University Avenue as Do Knotts Boulevard. But some resident best known as the bumbling, earnest sheriff, but known as th Show," might be the renaming of a theater show, gional clert



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